

## Officers in King beating get 30 months

LOS ANGELES (R) — Two white police officers convicted of violating black motorist Rodney King's civil rights in an infamous videotaped beating were sentenced on Wednesday to 30 months in prison. Acting out the final scene in an explosive two-year-old courtroom drama, U.S. District Judge John Davies imposed the prison terms on Sergeant Stacey Koon and Officer Laurence Powell after nearly four hours of impassioned arguments by prosecutors and defence lawyers. Sgt. Koon, who directed the 1991 beating, and Mr. Powell, who delivered most of the baton blows, could have received prison terms of up to 10 years, Mr. Davies said he chose to sentence the defendants in the lower range of the federal court guidelines because of the resistance put up by Mr. King during his arrest and the negative impact on their lives from the notoriety of the case. But he said he was also swayed by the fact the officers are first-time offenders with otherwise clean records of police service.

# Jordan Times

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# Parliament dissolved; polls set for Nov. 8

## No clear indication yet of action on Election Law; 1,319,000 voters on roster

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday issued a Royal Decree dissolving the 11th Lower House of Parliament, and the government set Nov. 8 as the date for the first multi-party polls in over three decades.

"We, Hussein the First, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in accordance with Article 34 of the Constitution, order the Lower House of Parliament dissolved as of August 4," King Hussein said in the Royal Decree.

And in accordance with Article 17 of the Election Law, the Cabinet announced Nov. 8 as the date for the new elections.

King Hussein later conferred with members of the Cabinet and "blessed the government decision and urged that the coming elections be held at the highest degree of fairness, neutrality and competence," Minister of Information Ma'an Abu Nowar told reporters at the end of the meeting, which was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Royal Court Chief Khalid Al Karaki.

Dr. Abu Nowar said the meeting did not discuss possible changes to the Election Law, but

an official source confirmed that a draft legislation was presented to King Hussein Tuesday, adding that it was still unclear whether the King was ready yet to act on the government's recommendation.

"The Cabinet did not discuss changing the Election Law... and the issue was not discussed either before or after (the meeting with the King)," Dr. Abu Nowar said. The highly-placed source, however, said the Ministry of Interior has finalised a draft legislation that mainly proposes replacing the current bloc-voting system with the one-person-one-vote formula.

The draft legislation also recommended cancelling clause of Article 18 of the current Election Law, which bans members of illegal groups from contesting the elections, sources said.

The new draft legislation, however, does not propose the redrawing of voting precincts which is believed to be the most complex process that the government would have had to tackle had it decided to draw new constituencies.

Under the current Election Law, voters have as many votes as the number of seats assigned for their constituencies which do not ensure equal representation for equal number of people. Observers, who saw the dis-



His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday meets the Council of Ministers (Petra photo)

solution of the House as a preliminary step towards changing the Election Law, believe that the introduction of the one-man-one-vote formula would work against large and well-organised groups which benefited the most from the bloc-voting system through forming alliances and coalitions in the 1989 elections.

The Muslim Brotherhood movement, which feels targeted by the change, is expected to be the big loser if the one-person-

one-vote system is introduced. The movement is the fiercest opposer of introducing the one-person-one-vote formula and has threatened to boycott the elections if the government changed the law unilaterally and without the approval of the House.

The Brotherhood's 23 strong bloc at the former House had also warned that it would call for an extraordinary session of the House if the government did not pass the changes through the

legislature. The dissolving of Parliament was therefore seen by observers as a move to preempt a Brotherhood-led request by deputies to hold an extraordinary session of the House, even though the decision is constitutional and legal as Dr. Abu Nowar said.

"If Parliament was not dissolved, it would have been called for an extraordinary session," said Isqab Al Farhan, president

of the Islamic Action Front under whose umbrella the Brotherhood parliamentary candidates would contest the elections.

Usually well-informed observers agree that a change in the law has now become imminent. In addition to dissolving the Lower House, they cite as strong indication of the government's intention to change the law statements by Dr. Majali that there are many loopholes in the legislation and that the national debate

on the law that King Hussein had called for has been taking place in the press and among the country's intelligentsia. The effective ruling out of a mechanism similar to the one through which the National Charter was adopted in 1991 as a forum for electoral changes is another indicator that the government would act on the law unilaterally, they said.

Observers, however, did not expect the government to announce a decision on the law until the end of the voter registration period on Aug. 15. They agreed that through delaying a decision on the Election Law, the government aimed at aborting possible moves by political groups to transfer voters to different constituencies, thus guaranteeing support in different areas. The period for transfer of voters' constituencies ended on Aug. 1.

Minister of Interior Salameh Hamad told reporters Wednesday that 291,000 new voters had registered, bringing the total number of registered voters to 1,319 million. By international standards, which estimate the eligible voters of a country's population at 40 per cent, Jordan would have 1.6 million eligible voters and therefore the percentage of eligible voters in Jordan who appear willing to vote is a

high one, said Mr. Hamad. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted King Hussein as praising the high awareness of people and their enthusiasm to "shoulder their great constitutional responsibilities in electing a new legislature from among the best of Jordanians so that (the deputies) can perform their roles in serving the country."

The King also urged abidance by the law and reiterated Jordan's commitment to the democratic march, freedom, political pluralism and human rights.

Dr. Abu Nowar said that the minister of interior briefed the King on the procedures that would be followed during the elections.

During his meeting with the Cabinet, the King also briefed the ministers on the outcome of his recent visits to Britain, France and Turkey and instructed concerned ministers to follow up on them, Dr. Abu Nowar said.

Petra said Dr. Majali briefed the King on the Cabinet's work mechanism, the measures it has taken to decentralise government work and its efforts to bring about better relations with Arab countries.

Petra said the King praised the democratic orientation of the Cabinet and the participation of all its members in the decision-making process.

## Christopher says peace process saved

### U.S. envoy optimistic after talks with Syrian and Lebanese leaders

Combined agency dispatches

ZAHLE, Lebanon — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Wednesday he believed the Middle East peace process had been salvaged after last week's violence in southern Lebanon and Arab-Israeli negotiations would resume.

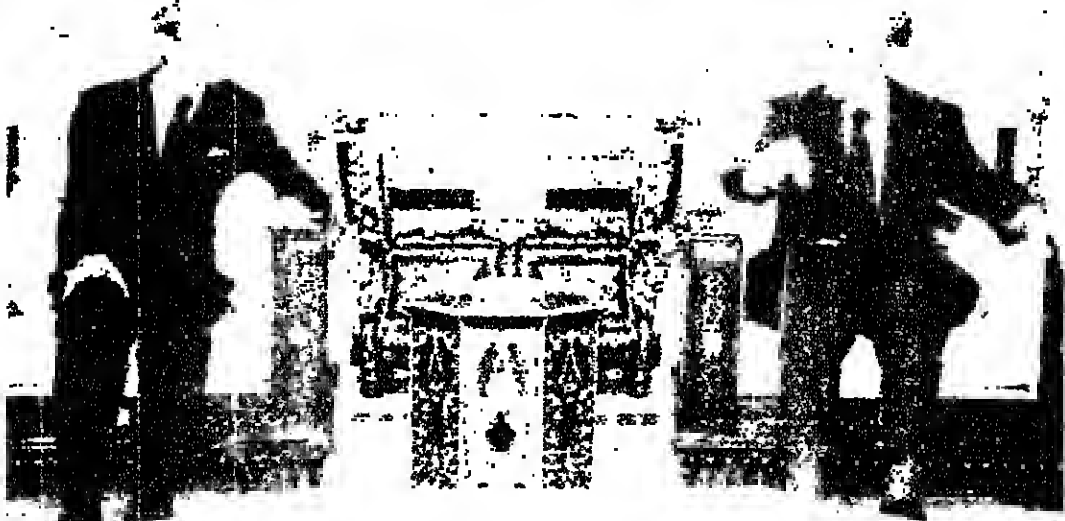
Speaking after two hours of talks with Lebanese leaders in the eastern town of Zahle, Mr. Christopher said the Lebanese appeared prepared to continue the 21-month-old peace talks with Israel despite a seven-day Israeli blitz of the south last week.

"I want to once again not over-hype expectations but I think we have salvaged the peace process and I think we will be able to resume the discussions, hopefully energised by these events," he told a news conference.

"But I emphasise the difficulty of the course and coming here to Lebanon certainly is a reminder of the difficult days ahead."

He said his two hours of talks in Lebanon were excellent and a ceasefire that he brokered last week to end the seven-day Israeli offensive on the south was "somewhat fragile" but he welcomed government plans to send Lebanese troops to the region (see page 10).

Mr. Christopher announced



U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher meets with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad (AFP photo)

the United States was reannulling stocks of food and funds and sending a 750-bed mobile hospital worth \$11 million to help the people of the battered south.

Earlier Wednesday, Mr. Warren Christopher met Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

"We believe that talks that secretary Christopher has had today may salvage the peace process, because we believe objectively the recent events in Lebanon... had they continued would

have hurried the peace process in the rubble," Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa told a joint news conference.

Mr. Christopher said he had a "useful set of discussions" and endorsed the Syrian minister's evaluation.

His tour of Middle East capitals started in Egypt Monday.

Mr. Christopher said he and Mr. Assad "agreed progress is achievable but that much, much hard work is required."

Mr. Sharaa denied allegations in the media and by U.S. Representative Tom Lantos that Syria has been a conduit for weapons shipments from Iran to guerrillas in South Lebanon.

"The information the congressman has got is absolutely false," he said.

Mr. Sharaa called Lebanon "a jungle of weapons" and said Hizbollah does not need any additional firepower. But he acknowledged that he and Mr. Christopher had

discussed the allegations.

Mr. Christopher drove to and back to Damascus and then flew back to Israel. A heavily guarded motorcade accompanied him on the drive to Zahle, where he held talks with President Elias Hrawi and other officials.

He was met at the Masnaa border crossing by Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Bouez and U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Ryan Crocker.

The talks in Zahle, Mr. Hrawi's home town, were attended by Mr. Bouez and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

Mr. Christopher said his discussions in Damascus dealt with "ways to break the deadlock in the Israeli-Syrian track" in which Syria is seeking an Israeli commitment of full withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Mr. Christopher said he would take back to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin "things that the president told me (I) am authorised to pass back to him. Whether they are new or not (I) am not sure, but they are significant."

Mr. Christopher said the Lebanese crisis "reminds us of the urgency of seeking peace in this area, and out of it comes my firm conviction that a new opportunity may have emerged to revive the peace process."

(Continued on page 5)

## Brotherhood 'surprised,' says options open pending extent of likely changes to Election Law

By Wafa Amr  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Muslim Brotherhood leaders, taken by surprise by the decision Wednesday to dissolve Parliament, have said they would postpone any action until the study changes which they expect to be introduced to the current Election Law.

"We were surprised by yesterday's developments. We did not expect things to move so fast," said Dr. Isqab Al Farhan, leader of the Islamic Action Front (IAF) and a leading figure in the Brotherhood movement.

Another Brotherhood deputy, who preferred anonymity, confirmed that his group was surprised by the dissolution of Parliament, and said: "We believed that elections would actually be held under the current law."

The Brotherhood — the largest and most influential bloc in Parliament and the most organised political group in the Kingdom — strongly opposes changing the current law since it feels it is targeted by the change.

"We oppose the mechanism of any changes to the current law since laws have to pass through Parliament and we also reject the timing," Mr. Farhan said. "More time is needed to change an important law in order to result in democratic amendments and changes," Brotherhood Deputy Hamzeh Mansour said.

Although Brotherhood leaders had earlier agreed with other political groups that the current law required amendments such as reducing the age of voters from 19 to 18, and cancelling Article 18 of the law which bans illegal political party members from running for elections and even to the idea of introducing a one-person-one-vote principle. They always insisted that any change should be approved by Parliament.

Observers said this was their tactic to buy time so that elections would be held under the current law, leaving the debate over changes put off for the next Parliament.

Dr. Farhan told the Jordan Times the IAF would now "seriously study the new developments before we can officially announce our position."

A Brotherhood deputy said

the IAF — dominated by the Brotherhood — was keeping its options open.

"If we feel that we have been targeted by these changes, we will decide accordingly how to react," the deputy said.

Many Brotherhood members feel that changing the Election Law would be aimed at reducing the influence of the Islamic movement in the next Parliament because they would oppose a Jordanian-Israeli peace agreement that they say is expected within the next six months. But some Brotherhood deputies argued that changing the law in order to pass a peace agreement was "unnecessary."

"Despite our influence in Parliament, we were unable to gather more than 34 signatures on a statement opposing the current peace process, one Brotherhood deputy said. "But it seems the government wants to pass a peace agreement with a vast majority in Parliament as a show of popular support for the agreement."

Deputy Mansour, blasting the government of Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, said the government "wants a weak opposition."

Some non-Islamic and secular political figures who criticise the one-person-one-vote formula expressed concern that such a move would have the opposite desired outcome. An informed politician and a former minister said the Brotherhood "would not be affected much by a new law aimed at reducing the number of Islamic seats in Parliament... they would win popular support by playing the role of martyrs."

A Jordanian scholar, Dr. Mustafa Hamarneh said: "If the law is changed now to the one-person-one-vote formula, it would, in my view, represent an unnecessary confrontation with the Islamic Action Front because they perceive it as a move against them being the largest political organisation in the country."

Aware of their strength and influence in the country, the Brotherhood threatened earlier to boycott the next elections to protest the government's "intention" to change the law without passing through Parliament.

For months the Brotherhood conducted heated internal debates over the best course of action in case the government went ahead with the change. According to sources inside the Brotherhood, the debates led to the emergence of real disputes and differences of opinion between the so-called "moderates" and "hardliners" in the movement.

The "moderates," keen on sending strong signals of protest to the government, have called for boycotting elections. According to supporters of this view, the Brotherhood would both avoid a confrontation with the regime and maintain its credibility with its hardline grassroots.

The "hardliners" on the other hand, prefer to respond to what they perceive as an intended confrontation initiated by the government. By entering elections in full force and with as many candidates as they could in order to prove their strength on the ground and to try to stop any government action that does not fall in line with their beliefs.

Informed Brotherhood sources said the "moderate" point of view finally prevailed, taking into consideration the special status the Brotherhood enjoys in Jordan in view of the international and Arab crackdown on Islamic movements.

Deputy Mansour revealed there were three options debated within the IAF and the Brotherhood: "To participate in elections regardless of the Election Law in full force and with as many Brotherhood candidates; to participate with the minimum number of candidates, or to boycott elections altogether."

All three options are based on convincing arguments, but the first and third options carry more weight in internal debates, Deputy Mansour said. "Boycotting elections is intended as a message, and proponents of boycotting are concerned with showing that democracy should not be cosmetic. Either we have real democracy or there is no need for a 'democracy' similar to that in other Arab states," he added.

The argument of supporters of contesting elections in full force, who count Deputy Man-

(Continued on page 5)



# New moves under way to end Libyan crisis

Combined agency despatches

UNITED NATIONS — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali said Tuesday he was awaiting clarification from Libya about the surrender of trial of two suspects in the 1988 Pan Am jetliner bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, before sending a U.N. mission to Tripoli.

After his second meeting in less than a week with Libyan Foreign Minister Omar Mustafa Al Muntasser, the U.N. chief told reporters: "He is ready to receive a mission to see what are the arrangements to deliver the two suspects."

"There are certain details. So he is returning to Tripoli to give me an answer concerning those details and then I will be ready to send a new mission there."

Asked where the suspects should be tried, Dr. Ghali replied: "In Britain, is what we have in mind."

Quered whether there was any indication of positive movement in that direction, he said: "No, but they (the Libyans) will give me an indication when they send me a message back."

Mr. Muntasser told reporters

after his meeting with Dr. Ghali: "We discussed positive steps for implementing 731 (a January 1992 resolution which first called for the surrender of the suspects) and I have to go back and confer with my government on final agreement."

A U.N. spokesman, who earlier described the meeting with the foreign minister as "very constructive," said a July 28 letter from Mr. Muntasser had suggested the dispatch of a U.N. mission "to verify that there are no terrorist camps in Libya and to discuss measures related to the trial of the two suspects."

The Security Council imposed sanctions against Libya, with effect from April 15, 1992.

Libya's refusal to surrender two Libyans for trial in Scotland or the United States over the Lockerbie bombing and lack of cooperation into an inquiry of the 1989 bombing of a French airliner over Niger in which all 171 people aboard were killed, were catalysts for the imposition of the sanctions.

Dr. Ghali called in U.S., British and French U.N. officials for a conference an hour before meeting Mr. Muntasser,

apparently to seek their approval for his response to the Libyan proposals.

In London, U.S., British and French diplomats also met to discuss tightening sanctions on Libya, but they refused to disclose the outcome of their talks.

The present embargo is causing some inconvenience for Tripoli but not enough to force its hand on the release of the two suspects to American or British authorities, diplomats say.

The U.N. Security Council is scheduled to review Libyan compliance with council resolutions at mid-month.

There has been discussion of a ban on deliveries of oil technology to Libya, but U.S. government sources, asking not to be identified, said intelligence reports indicate Libya has been stockpiling these supplies.

Another option is the freezing of Libyan assets abroad. But Henry Schuler, of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, said Monday he had seen reports suggesting that Libyans have withdrawn \$3 billion in assets from European banks to minimise the impact of any assets freeze.



HOMELESS: A Lebanese family Wednesday in last week's Israeli bombardment of Lebanon (AFP photo)

## Soviet spy appeals for Israeli pardon

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli biological specialist Marek Kleinberg, a Soviet spy who has been in jail for the last decade, has asked for a presidential pardon, Israel Radio reported Wednesday.

The authorities were examining the appeal filed last week by lawyer Avigdor Feldman for "medical reasons."

Professor Kleinberg, reportedly has heart and back problems and suffers from depression, but Mr. Feldman refused to comment on the radio broadcast.

He was tried in secret by a military court and found guilty of providing top secret information to KGB agents linked to his work at Israel's biological research institute near Tel Aviv. The length of his sentence is not known.

Israeli censors allowed on Monday for the first time Israeli media to report that Mr. Kleinberg had been jailed in 1983 as a spy, although foreign newspapers revealed the affair several years ago.

Mr. Kleinberg, a Pole who emigrated to Israel in 1948, also requested a presidential pardon a year ago, the radio said.

Israel also revealed last June that an army major, Yossef Amit, was serving 12 years in jail for spying for a foreign power; which was not identified although several experts pointed a finger at the United States.

Shabtai Kalmanovich, who also spied for the former Soviet Union, was released on a presidential pardon last March. He had been sentenced to nine years.

The newspaper Haaretz successfully fought a ban by the army censor on reporting anything about Mr. Kleinberg, who disappeared a decade ago.

Haaretz, basing its story partly on what it said were foreign news reports, described Mr. Kleinberg as "one of the most senior spies the Soviet Union had in Israel."

An Israeli government spokesman declined to comment. But the Haaretz success in challenging the censor caused other Israeli newspapers to join in reporting the case.

Haaretz said Mr. Kleinberg moved to Israel from the Soviet Union in 1948 and worked at the Nes Tziona biological institute near Tel Aviv from 1957 until his arrest in 1983. The institute conducted much of Israel's chemical and biological warfare research.

He disappeared in 1983, amid initial press reports he had defected to the Soviet Union.

## Rafsanjani pledges no adventure abroad

TEHRAN (R) — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani took the oath of office Wednesday, saying he would follow a non-adventurous diplomacy to secure the calm needed for Iran's economic progress in a volatile region.

At a ceremony in Majlis (parliament), Mr. Rafsanjani said he needed the support of all ruling factions to reform the economy and promote social justice in the next four years.

The 58-year-old cleric also declared that 14 years at the centre of power had not changed his "lower-middle class" life and his wife did domestic chores without the help of a maid.

"I swear on the Holy Koran... to devote myself to service of the people, progress of the country and support for justice," Mr. Rafsanjani vowed.

The oath was administered by the head of the judiciary, Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, before Majlis deputies, ministers, other officials and foreign diplomats.

"I declare in the presence of the country's elders that there is a serious need for cooperation and understanding to bring about progress and social justice," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

He said Iran was never adventurous in foreign policy because Islam could grow better in calm surroundings.

"We try to have a presence in the world as a centre of culture, not through force, weapons and terror as the cowardly accusations against us claim."

"All around us we see crises except where security is enforced by foreign soldiers. We want security and we should appreciate security for the sake of reconstruction," he said.

Washington brands Iran the most dangerous state sponsor of "terrorism" despite Iran's efforts under Mr. Rafsanjani to shed its radical image and concentrate on rebuilding its war-torn economy.

Mr. Rafsanjani said huge subsidies, including up to \$14 billion a year for fuel, stunted the country's progress and often favoured the rich yet critics always objected in the name of social justice whenever subsidies were cut and prices raised.

"I cannot do it alone if you do not cooperate. I took some bold action in the past four years. Cooking oil, fuel, electricity and bread are paid from the treasury. Four years ago cars, trucks and even needles were also in the list," he said.

"This (reform) programme must go ahead gradually... not as a shock, but step by step," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

Newspapers say Mr. Rafsanjani is expected to introduce his



Hashemi Rafsanjani

cabinet to Majlis on Sunday and report intense backroom bargaining over jobs.

They said last month that the conservative Majlis majority wanted to replace 12 of 23 ministers, including important oil, finance and interior portfolios.

But several press reports this week said the changes would be limited to five relatively minor posts.

Mr. Rafsanjani said he would listen to what the Majlis had to say about ministers and accept what was just.

Mr. Rafsanjani started his second term on Tuesday when supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei confirmed the result of June elections in which he won 63 per cent of the vote.

Mr. Rafsanjani, one of the closest aides to the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, leader of Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution, was Majlis speaker for nine years before becoming president in 1989.

"I want to state for the record that my condition before the revolution was lower-middle class and we have not climbed up since," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

He said he had bought a house before the revolution on top of which his children were now building apartments for themselves.

"We used to have a servant, but not any more, and my wife cleans the house, washes and cooks," he said.

But he added that he lived on his "pre-revolutionary resources" without elaborating. He said he put his presidential salary, which he did not disclose, in the bank, occasionally withdrawing sums to pay for day-to-day expenses.

## Kurds repeat offer to free six tourists

BEIRUT (R) — Kurdish rebels Wednesday repeated their offer to release six foreign tourists if any international agency could guarantee their safe passage out of a battle zone in southeast Turkey. In a statement issued in Beirut, the Kurdistan National Liberation Army (ARKG) said the Briton, an Australian and four Frenchmen would be handed to any agency that could take them to safety.

ARKG, military wing of the separatist Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK), said the six were detained last month because they entered Kurdish areas of southeast Turkey without entry visas issued by the group.

The PKK first made the offer on July 29 when it said it wanted mediators to guarantee a safe handover. The European medical charity Medecins du Monde (MDM) immediately said it was willing to act as intermediary although it could not condone hostage-taking. It was not clear what became of their offer.

The ARKG statement said Kurdish guerrillas detained Briton Michael Rowbottom and his Australian cousin Tania Miller, both 28, near Nimrod mountain in Ayala Girza region on July 5. It said Frenchmen Pierre Fix, 43, Michel Courdrey, 52, Robert Audouin, 51, and Fernand Haron, 66, were detained on July 24 as guerrillas took control of a highway linking two cities in the southeast.

"We announce our complete willingness to release those tourists," said the ARKG.

"We are not doing this now to safeguard their lives because we have no guarantees that their lives will not be endangered after their release as a result of the random shelling and strafing operations being undertaken by the Turkish army."

"Therefore we appeal to all institutions and humanitarian agencies which see in themselves this power of guarantee to go to Kurdistan and contact our forces there to pick up these tourists... we will welcome any initiative in this direction."

The statement said Turkish forces were heavily and randomly shelling areas in Kurdistan especially Aliyeh Garzan.

## Few victories, many insults for Israeli who defends Arabs

By Haltham Hamad  
The Associated Press

NABLUS, Occupied West Bank — Lea Tsemel strode past the Israeli soldiers, concrete walls and barbed wire into the compound that serves as army base, prison and courthouse.

Immediately, Palestinians surrounded her, yelling as if in unison.

"Lea Lea what is going to happen to my son in court today?"

Ms. Tsemel, their Jewish lawyer, threw her hands into the air and shouted in Arabic, "Once at a time." Then she listened to the questions, rattled off the answers and occasionally asked why her bills were not being paid.

"No money, no court," she said, and laughed.

Ms. Tsemel, 48, the child of Polish and Russian Jews who came to Palestine in the 1930s, has defended Palestinian Arabs in Israeli courts for more than 20 years.

"Lea Tsemel is a courageous Jewish lawyer," said Hussein Awad, a contractor from Ramallah whose son was arrested on charges of kidnapping Arabs suspected of collaborating with Israel. She knows the Israeli military system more than anybody else, she is an honest lady and, most important, a good bargainer.

Many Israelis see her as a traitor, the defender of Palestinians.

She acknowledges losing a lot of cases. "My major victories can be counted on one hand," she said, "but lowering a life sentence to 10 years is a victory."

In particularly sensitive cases, it sometimes appears that she is the one on trial.

She was physically attacked by Israeli extremists outside the Hebron military court while defending the Palestinians accused of killing six Jewish settlers in an armed attack in the West Bank town. She gets death threats in the mail. People spit at her. Relatives of victims yell "whore" at her.

Other Israelis respect Ms. Tsemel.

"Sometimes we make mis-

takes, or someone will trump up the charge and she will get on to that, whereas other lawyers, and I am generalising, do not even bother reading the evidence," said a military prosecutor, who withheld his name in accordance with army regulations.

Ms. Tsemel takes cases no one else will touch.

When 400 Palestinians were deported across the Lebanese border in December, about half of them hired her to take their cases to the supreme court.

Her work load grew dramatically after the uprising against Israeli occupation began in December 1987. More than 35,000 Palestinians have been arrested.

She tries not to pass judgment on Palestinians accused of killing Israelis, seeing violence as a reaction to 26 years of occupation.

"I cannot just stand there and criticise actions of the Palestinians while my people are bombing refugee camps in Lebanon and killing whoever is around," she said.

Political posters bearing such slogans as "Expulsion is transfer" and "enough occupation" provide the only decoration on the walls of her office in a neighbourhood of Arab East Jerusalem that Jews avoid. The three telephones seldom stop ringing.

The lawyer talks into all of them while also shouting to her two Palestinian assistants in a jumble of Hebrew and Arabic.

Despite her fame, Ms. Tsemel is still nervous about working in the heart of the occupied territories. Earlier this year, a Jewish lawyer was killed in the Gaza Strip.

"Of course I am scared travelling in the territories," she said, "but there is nothing I can do about it."

And new problems always turn up.

It was time for her 21-year-old son, Nissan, to enter the army. If he had asked her advice, which he did not, she would have suggested that he follow his father's footsteps and go to jail rather than serve.

"God forbid if something happened to my son, I hope I could find the courage to defend the person who did it to him," she said.

She said.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO  
17:30 Pict Hercules  
17:45 Goal  
18:15 Geopolis  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Azimut  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Too Close for Comfort  
21:10 Quantum Leap  
21:30 News in English  
22:20 Movie of the Week: "Suspect"

### PRAYER TIMES

04:21 Fajr  
05:48 (Sunrise) Duha  
12:42 Dhuhr  
16:21 Asr  
19:35 Maghrib  
21:02 Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweileh, Tel. 610740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

### Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 625226  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 823224, 694922  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675591

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively hot and windy with a northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp.  
Amman ..... 22 / 34  
Aqaba ..... 25 / 40  
Deserts ..... 19 / 37  
Jordan Valley ..... 24 / 39

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 35, Aqaba 41. Humidity readings: Amman 15 per cent, Aqaba 17 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ahmad Othman ..... 786384  
Dr. Ghaleb Zawideh ..... 786011  
Dr. Adnan Al Zaghoul ..... 898140  
Dr. Fakher Bilbisi ..... 663412  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asema pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nairook pharmacy ..... 635672  
Al Salsan pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

IRBID:  
Dr. Ali Al Omari ..... 272032  
Al Quds pharmacy (-)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Khalid Al Omari ..... 901266  
Khalid pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111

### Civil Defence Immediate

Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Fire Brigade ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Blood Bank ..... 891226  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 603800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage

Complaints ..... 897467  
Ammann Municipality ..... 851226  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone

Repairs  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53300  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport ..... 08-53320

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. ..... 644281/6  
Akhilah Maternity, J. Amn. ..... 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Smeisani ..... 664171/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669133  
University Hospital ..... 845843  
Al-Musashir Hospital ..... 66727/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/57  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Ishtaiq, Al-Musashir ..... 771013  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 75111/26  
Army, Marka ..... 89161/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 602240/50  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732  
Al Hikma Medical Hospital ..... (09)999999  
IRBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)725555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)727275  
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital ..... (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (03)3320-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
05:00 ..... Suez (RJ)  
05:30 ..... Aden (RJ)  
06:00 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
07:30 ..... Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)  
08:00 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
08:30 ..... Colombo (RJ)  
09:00 ..... London (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
10:30 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Dubai, Muscat (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)  
12:30 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
13:00 ..... Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
13:30 ..... London, Berlin (RJ)  
14:00 ..... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Rome (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:00 ..... Antalya (TK)  
13:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)  
14:00 ..... Riyadh (SU)  
14:30 ..... Rome (AI)  
15:00 ..... Cairo (MS)  
15:30 ..... Algiers (AL)

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg

Apples ..... 380/200  
Apricots ..... 440/340  
Bananas ..... 680 / 880  
Banana (Mukammal) ..... 620 / 620  
Beans ..... 520 / 350  
Cabbage ..... 100 / 50  
Carrots ..... 280/220  
Cauliflower ..... 180 / 180  
Cherry (red) ..... 100 / 50  
Cucumbers (large) ..... 100 / 50  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 170 / 120  
Eggplant ..... 170 / 50  
Garlic ..... 700 / 500  
Grapes ..... 300/200  
Lemon ..... 140 / 70  
Marrow (large) ..... 150 / 100  
Mint ..... 250 / 200  
Onion ..... 50  
Onion (dry) ..... 600/550  
Pepper (hot) ..... 140 / 70  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 340/200  
Peanuts ..... 600/500  
Potato ..... 300 / 220  
Tomato ..... 230 / 150  
Sweetcorn ..... 240/150  
Watermelon ..... 140/80

### DEPARTURES

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:00 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
05:30 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
06:00 ..... London (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
07:30 ..... Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)  
08:00 ..... Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
08:30 ..... Montreal, Toronto (RJ)  
09:00 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Athens (RJ)  
10:00 ..... London (RJ)  
10:30 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Dubai, Muscat (RJ)  
13:00 ..... Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

07:00 ..... Larnaca (CY)  
09:15 ..... Beirut (ME)  
12:15 ..... Larnaca, Vienna (OS)  
14:00 ..... Antalya (TK)



## King thanks House speaker

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a letter to Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat expressing his deep appreciation to him and his colleagues in the House for their efforts during the parliament 11th session.

The King noted that Dr. Arabiyat's performance was unique during his mandate as speaker. Over the last three years, the House deputies proved the country's ability to overcome critical situations and take the country into an era of tolerance, respect for human rights and the rule of law.

The King requested that his appreciation be conveyed to the House members for their legislative efforts and in monitoring the government's performance. He expressed hope that the

Jordanian representative authority would serve as a model for others and as an example to be followed in shouldering responsibility under the most difficult circumstances.

### Senate status unaffected

The Royal Decree issued Wednesday dissolving the Lower House of Parliament does not affect the Senate's representative role which will continue to function without formal sessions. According to the Constitution, the Upper House, whose 40 members are appointed by the King, ceases to hold sessions when the Lower House is not convened.

The Senate's term in office will continue until November when

the King names senators to replace present members who have served their four-year mandate. Meanwhile, the Upper House "will be active on all other levels except on legislations," according to the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi.

During the four months leading to the 12th parliament "the senate will represent Jordan in all inter-parliamentary meetings," Mr. Lawzi said.

Maintaining its representative status, the senate, which is not subject to dissolution, is the country's representative during the four-month period in meetings and conferences of Arab and international parliamentarians unions.

During this period, only temporary laws can be promulgated by the government.

## Majali calls for sound investment in the Kingdom's educational system

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Wednesday urged Jordanian educationists to reform the present higher education system by opening it up to those genuinely able to continue and benefit from university education rather than those who are only financially able to obtain higher education.

The education process is continuous and has long term objectives and results, therefore, sound investment from the outset should help in finding a way out of current predicaments, said Dr. Majali at a meeting of leading educationists at the Teachers' Club in Amman.

A well-founded system, said the prime minister, should help Jordan out of the present vicious cycle which, he maintained regrettably is manifested in the high rate of unemployment, ineffective public administration, the continued flow of university graduates and the abuse of public funds. Dr. Majali, who has served as Minister of Education and President of the University of Jordan, said that in a way, the current educational system has contributed to the rise in unemployment by adding a large number of graduates to the labour market.

Most of these graduates, he said, shun available jobs for purely social considerations. Dr. Majali said the government



Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, flanked by Education Minister Khalid Al Omari (left) and Under-Secretary Minister Al Masri, Wednesday addresses a meeting at the Teachers' Club (Petra photo).

pays special attention to the educational sector and is keen on restoring higher values and sound behavioural patterns. He urged educationists to adopt appropriate plans that would, among other things, transform the school into cultural and intellectual centres, enabling children to become creative elements

in their community. Dr. Majali continued. He added that educationists have a duty to persuade the public to participate in education decision-making since such decisions inevitably affect their lives. Urging employees in the educational sector to share in the process in deed rather than word,

the prime minister said that the 69,000 educationists, teachers and employees in this sector are responsible for the development of more than 1.2 million students, and therefore they ought to be firmly committed to the ethics of their duty and their mission by providing the best possible services.

Dr. Majali suggested that all school teachers should arrange for un-official weekly meetings with groups of their students to explore their ideas and listen to their problems. He said the teachers should report their findings to the school administration, which in turn can refer the matter to the Education Department.

"In this case, we will be helping to develop the students personalities because they will feel that they are actively participating in the community through education," added Dr. Majali.

He said most of Jordan's economic and production concerns are basically educational in nature.

Later in an open dialogue with the participants to the meetings, the prime minister said the government plans to deal with unemployment by creating investment opportunities in the private sector and developing production.

Referring to the status of teachers, the prime minister said he is supportive of the idea of creating a teachers union provided that it would aim at raising the standard of the profession.

He announced that His Majesty King Hussein has instructed the government to make allocations in the 1994 fiscal budget to support the teachers fund. This fund, he said, would offer soft term loans to teachers.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday awards certificates to graduates of the Al Wassifiyyah Center

## Queen awards graduates of Al Wassifiyyah Center

AMMAN (J.T.) — On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Al Wassifiyyah Vocational Center, Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday attended the centre's graduation ceremony and distributed certificates and awards to the graduates.

Queen Noor was received by Minister of Education Khalid Al Omari, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Monsignor Ra'ouf Najjar, and members of the centre's board of trustees. The centre was founded by His Lordship Bishop Nimeh

Al Sama'an in 1968. As an academic establishment that offers a diploma in secretarial studies, it operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Education.

In assisting students from the West Bank and outside Jordan to pursue their studies, Al Wassifiyyah Center offers accommodation in a student hostel.

At the ceremony Arabic and English speeches were delivered by two of the students, as well as by Fahed Al Faneh,

the main speaker, and Monsignor Ra'ouf Najjar.

Queen Noor distributed certificates to 220 graduates and gave gifts to 12 outstanding students. She also honoured three professors with gifts in appreciation for their work at the centre: Professor Yousef Abu Dayeh, Professor Antoine Fattaleh and Professor Anwar Akroush.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Queen Noor was presented with Al Wassifiyyah shield.

## PSD peace-keepers return from Cambodia

AMMAN (Petra) — A Public Security Department (PSD) contingent that has served for one year with the United Nations Peace-keeping forces in Cambodia Wednesday returned to Jordan and was welcomed by PSD Director General Abdul Rahman Al Udwan and other senior PSD officers.

Expressing his delight at their safe return home, Maj. Gen. Udwan said the contingent contributed towards laying the foundation of peace and security in the South-East Asian country, praising the efforts of the Jordanian force abroad.

He said the contingent members served as excellent ambassadors of Jordan.

Under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, said Maj. Gen. Udwan, Jordan has gained an excellent reputation at the international level and its people

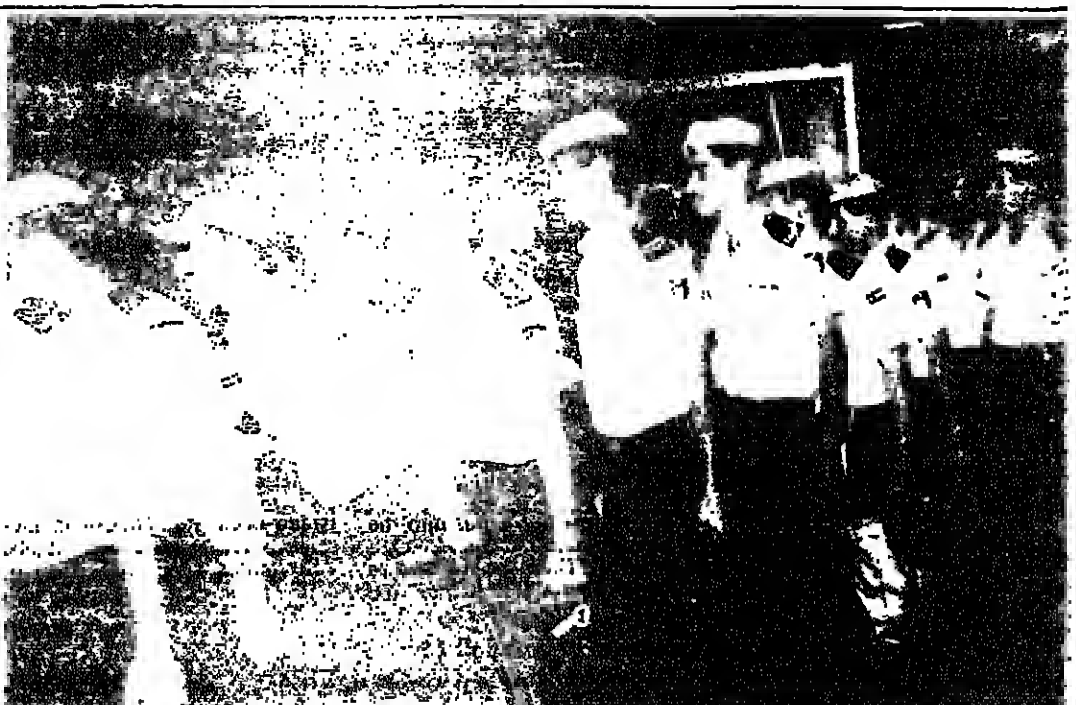
have been sharing the world's task of restoring peace in troubled areas.

Jordanian policemen's participation in the U.N. peace-keeping force in Cambodia was an embodiment to the honourable and significant humanitarian role of this country, said the PSD chief.

It's participation in this effort, he added, was part of Jordan's endeavours to protect and promote legitimacy and the rule of law which guarantees freedoms and prevents aggression, he added.

Several members of the PSD contingent interviewed by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said they were happy to return home safely after carrying out their duty as missionaries of peace.

Relatives of the returning policemen were also at the airport to welcome the contingent.



A contingent of Public Security Department forces Wednesday returns home to Jordan after serving in the U.N. peacekeeping efforts in Cambodia

## Heavy meteor showers predicted for next week

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Director of the Department of Meteorology Ali Abanda has predicted that the northern hemisphere will experience heavy meteor showers between Aug. 11 and 12.

The showers are expected to start at a rate of 90 an hour and will increase to 1,000 an hour, with the greatest number of meteors falling Aug. 12, said Dr. Abanda in a statement to the Jordan Times Wednesday.

He said that because all meteors burn upon entering the Earth's atmosphere due to friction, none are expected to reach the Earth's surface.

Dr. Abanda said that people in Jordan would be able to see some meteors but not all because of a full moon expected around that date.

Similar phenomenon occurred over the Earth in 1934, he said. Earlier, the local press quoted Imad Mujahed, a Jordanian astronomer who predicted the meteor showers but claimed that such an occurrence has not been witnessed in the past 150 years.

According to Mr. Mujahed, the converging orbits of the Earth



Ali Abanda

and the comet Swift will cause accumulated gases and dust to shower the Earth in the form of meteors.

Mr. Mujahed predicted that the meteors will fall from a height ranging between 60 and 120 kilometres.

According to Mr. Mujahed, midnight is the best time to see the meteors with the naked eye.

### Ministry urges abidance by labour law

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour Khaled Ghazawi Wednesday said the Ministry of Labour was serious in its endeavours to fight foreign workforce staying illegally in the Kingdom. Mr. Ghazawi said the ministry would take the necessary legal procedures against illegal workforce and employers who hire foreign workers without obtaining the needed permits. At a meeting of directors of labour and employment offices around the Kingdom, the minister urged the labour offices to intensify visits to establishments employing foreign workers.

### Marriott initials blood donation action

Amman — On the occasion of the second Blood Bank drive, the Amman Marriott Hotel established a one-day donation room with the help of the Blood Bank staff and a large number of the Marriott employees who donated blood as part of the hotel's participation in humanitarian activities and services to the local community.

The Marriott has long been an active participant and supporter of activities that aid the handicapped and the needy in the community. The train ride is a prominent annual function which takes place in September and all proceeds go to Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

The Marriott also plays a significant role in the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped by recruiting some disabled people out of a strong belief that physically handicapped people should be properly integrated into the community as creative and productive individuals.

## City planning should protect cultural heritage, sites

AMMAN (Petra) — Preserving the Kingdom's cultural heritage, as well as its historical and tourist attractions are considerations which should be taken in city planning, said Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Mohammed Mahdi Al Farhan.

The minister Wednesday, at a meeting of the ministry's organisation and planning committee announced the creation of a technical team to coordinate plans and consult with the Department of Antiquities and its branch offices in an effort to protect historical and archaeological sites.

The committee decided on several procedural measures aimed at facilitating loans for municipal and village councils to finance road construction. It said that arrangements will

be made for these councils to announce tenders for their road projects annually in the early spring, so that projects can be completed by that same spring or summer.

Internal ministry organisation, and the creation of an appropriate mechanism for following up on the implementation of decisions were also discussed at the meeting.

## Government to decentralise administration

KARAK (Petra) — Karak Governor Khalaf Mahasneh Wednesday said the government was currently working on developing administrative structures around the Kingdom with the aim of decentralising them and giving them the power to improve services offered to citizens.

As part of these efforts, which were exerted upon directives by His Majesty King Hussein, the Karak Governorate will have its own budget in the future to finance projects which will be carried out within its vicinity, said Mr. Mahasneh at a meeting with the governorate's executive board at the Karak Chamber of Commerce.

He said projects carried out by the governorate in the future will take into consideration the basic services needed by citizens, in accordance with a list of priorities.

The current stage, he said, requires from all government departments and public institutions to fully cooperate and pool their efforts to achieve Jordan's national aspirations as outlined by King Hussein.

The governor affirmed that the economic crisis affecting Jordan would not discourage Jordanian citizens from working hard, but would enhance their true national belonging and allegiance to the Hashemite leadership.

Mr. Mahasneh underlined the importance of constructive dialogue between citizens and public administrators in achieving participation and shouldering responsibilities to contribute to developing public services in the local communities.

He urged the directors of government departments in the Karak Governorate to prepare their departments' budgets, explaining their needs and plans, and asked them to present them to the governorate so as to be included in its general budget. He also called on them to hold periodic meetings that would help them get familiarised with their areas' needs and the services they offer to citizens.

Internal ministry organisation, and the creation of an appropriate mechanism for following up on the implementation of decisions were also discussed at the meeting.

## Tolerance binds Muslims, Christians

AMMAN (Petra) — Religious tolerance constitutes one of the basic features of Jordanian society where Muslims and Christians practise their religious precepts and following His Majesty King Hussein's directives in this regard, said Sheikh Izzeddin Al Khaib Al Tamimi, the King's adviser on religious affairs.

Addressing a seminar entitled "Religious Tolerance," held at the Royal Cultural Centre, Sheikh Tamimi said that religious tolerance was one of Islam's basic virtues.

The seminar was organized by a Group Eight of the Jordanian Chapter of Amnesty International and was addressed by Greek Catholic Priest Nabil Haddad, journalist George Haddad (both Christians) and Youssef Abu Bakr (Muslim) who is secretary general of the Christian Islamic political movement "Du'aa."

Nothing that all monotheistic religions seek to attain good for all human beings, fight corruption in their search for justice and preach charity and compassion. Sheikh Tamimi emphasised the role of the media in further deepening these values in the hearts of the Jordanian community.

Islam is a religion of tolerance and at the same time, Islam condemns all forms of aggression and harmful actions directed against human beings, added Sheikh Tamimi who had served as minister of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs in the former government of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

While in Jordan people practise religious tolerance, he said, heinous crimes are committed against the Muslim peoples in Palestine, Bosnia and Lebanon. He said that world organisations which brag about keenness on protecting human rights see and hear about these atrocities without doing anything. Father Nabil Haddad reviewed Christians' contributions to the Arab civilisation throughout history. Noting that Islam and Christianity advocated tolerance, father Haddad said the Koran and the Bible serve as positive elements that bind Christians and Muslims together.

According to Mr. Abu Bakr, Islam is a faith that respects religious and cultural pluralism and deplores violence and all forms of terrorism. He echoed other speakers' view that religious tolerance has marked the character of Muslim and Christian people in the Kingdom.

### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Pilot crashes in the desert

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian pilot Tuesday was killed when his aircraft crashed in the Jordanian desert while on a training mission, informed sources said. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported that His Majesty King Hussein delegated His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ben Zeid to attend the funeral of the pilot, who was identified as First Lieutenant Mohammad Anwar Al Huneidi, and to convey the King's condolences to his family.

#### Customs officer injured in shootout

AMMAN (Petra) — A customs officer was shot and injured Wednesday by traffickers in Al Ruweished area, near the Iraqi border, Customs Department sources said. The sources said that while officials of the department were patrolling the area east of the free zone in Al Ruweished desert, they saw two cars and started chasing them. They added that shooting took place between the patrol car and the traffickers who escaped the scene leaving a customs officer, identified as Mohammad Al Su'ub, injured. The sources said the officer was speedily transported to Al Hussein Medical Centre and said he was now in good condition.

#### Minister, writers union head meet

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture Mahmoud Al Samra Wednesday met with President of the Jordanian Writers Union Hani Al Amad and federation Administrative Committee members Dia'eddin Al Rifa'i and Hani Kheir. Dr. Samra stressed at the meeting the keenness of the ministry to support the cultural movement in Jordan and to protect creative literary works. He stressed the need to enhance relations between the ministry and the federation.

#### 29 graduate as judges

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday attended a graduation ceremony of judges from the Jordan Judicial Institute in Amman. Prince Hassan distributed certificates to the 29 graduating judges who come from Jordan and Oman. The ceremony was attended by Justice Minister Ratab Al Wazani and senior judges.

#### Malhas, bakers discuss health regulations

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas Wednesday met with a delegation representing the Jordanian Bakery Owners Association and discussed with them issues related to health regulations. Dr. Malhas emphasised that the ministry will be firm in dealing with any violation of health regulations by bakeries and urged the delegation to inform all bakery owners of the need to adhere to all regulations. In a separate development, Dr. Malhas decided to include several areas with the eastern Amman Health Department. These areas include Al Quweismeh, Abu Alanda, Al Rajib, Khreber Al Souq, Jawa, Yadouda, Umm Qusair, Al Muqabelein and Al Bunayyat.

#### New offices to accept water bills

AMMAN (Petra) — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) Wednesday decided to open new offices in all parts of the Kingdom to receive payments from citizens for their water bills. WAJ Secretary General Qusai Quteishat said two offices will be opened in Amman and one in each water department around Jordan, which will bring the total number of these offices to 22. Later, the number of these offices will reach 55, Mr. Quteishat said. He said WAJ was prompted to open these offices because some local banks had stopped receiving payments for water bills from customers who do not have accounts with these banks.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Bishara Najjar at Ebbelha Art Gallery. The paintings depict Jordanian-Palestinian heritage, Jordanian antiquities, Arab Jerusalem, rural life and natural scenery.
- Exhibition of a new collection of art works by Princess Wijdan Ali at The Gallery, Hotel Jordan InterContinental.
- Exhibition of paintings by 25 Jordanian artists at the Housing Bank Gallery.

### JERUSALEM FESTIVAL

- Seminar, in Arabic, on "Arts and Creativity Issues" at 6.30 p.m. at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.
- Concert by Al Hannouni Troupe for Folk Arts and Al Wihdat Refugee Camp Troupe at 8.30 p.m. at the Roman Amphitheatre, downtown Amman.
- Exhibition of paintings, posters, Palestinian costumes, books and other items on the holy city of Jerusalem at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.  
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### Collective effort for democracy

THE ROYAL Decree that was issued yesterday dissolving the Lower House of Parliament, and the subsequent decision by the prime minister to set Nov. 8 as election day, clears the way for the government to amend the current Election Law and for candidates to start their campaigns in earnest.

His Majesty the King had on many occasions called for ensuring that any amendment to the law be constitutional and democratic. But judging by information available, the changes to the law are likely to introduce a one-person-one-vote formula without changing the number of constituencies or abolishing quotas for minorities. This means that the expected amendments would fall short of the expectations of many democratically enthusiastic Jordanians. The formula of one-person-one-vote without dividing the Kingdom into equally-populated constituencies defies the purpose of ensuring each Jordanian equal voting power. Additionally the allocation of seats for minorities and bedouins also runs counter to genuine democratic practices and the concept of equality among Jordanians enshrined in the Constitution. Under the system of quotas ethnic, religious and tribal affiliations can only be strengthened and deepened. And if, as is being speculated, 18-year-old Jordanians will continue to be denied the rights to vote then a wide segment of politically active youth will be excluded and as such they will not have much faith in our fledgling democracy.

Furthermore, apart from the debate that His Majesty the King held with his council, the Upper House, very little dialogue has been conducted nationwide, least of all between the government and the different political parties.

The issue of bypassing Parliament remains controversial, and it also could be argued that a new temporary law should not be enacted since no compelling circumstances, as stipulated by the Constitution, exist for introducing it.

But having said all that, and although we feel that the anticipated changes to the law will still fall short of the expectations of many Jordanians, we believe that no political group should boycott the elections. In this vein, we should all remember that the 11th Parliament was itself elected according to an amended law, with that amendment being itself temporary. It is therefore equally valid to contend that the current law besides being arguably unconstitutional, is also undemocratic.

While we hope that the 12th parliament will be more representative we hope that all political parties and all candidates would campaign on the platform of improving democratic institutions and democratic tools during the coming four years. After all this is an infant democracy that thrives in a polluted regional environment. Nursing and nurturing it will be neither easy nor smooth. It requires the participation and goodwill of all to make it work.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

WE CONSIDER Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to Israel as the most important link in his current tour to give momentum to the Middle East process, said Al Dustour daily Wednesday. Everything the secretary of state hopes to achieve in the region hinges on Israel's approval and therefore his talks with the Israeli leaders are the most important of all his contacts, said the paper. The U.S. administration, which has seen the peace process meeting one obstacle after another, must have realised now that Israel's continued rejection of the U.N. resolutions and non-compliance with the requirements of the international legitimacy were responsible for the delay in reaching a settlement and the main stumbling block in the path of peace, said the daily. It said that for this reason Mr. Christopher has to clarify Israel's position and request that Israel present a clear stand that could be conveyed to be Arab parties. Without Washington's pressure on the Rabin government, to make it change its position and its procrastinations, there can be no way for reaching a settlement and the U.S. government's efforts over the past two years would end up in nought, said the paper. Any failure of the peace process would open the door wide for renewed violence and counter-violence and acts of extremism that would escalate tension again in the region, warned the daily. The paper expressed hope that Mr. Christopher's current tour would yield very encouraging results enabling the concerned parties to resume the peace process with renewed hopes for fruitful results.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour warned the Palestinians against accepting partial solutions with Israel and demanded full implementation of U.N. resolutions concerning Palestine. The Palestinian leadership ought to take immediate control of whatever parts of the occupied lands from which Israeli troops plan to withdraw, but this should take place in implementation of an overall plan for control of all the liberated territories, including Arab Jerusalem, demanded Saleh Al Qallab. The writer said that the Palestinian leadership should fill the vacuum which the Israelis plan to create provided that this leadership does not cede any Arab rights, he continued. The writer said that the Israelis are trying to peddle the idea of giving back Gaza first to the Palestinians as a measure to make them forget about their rights in the Holy City of Jerusalem and are resending this offer like one offering poison coated with honey to make it palatable to the recipient. Israel is hoping to deceive the Palestinians through the American envoy's visit to the Middle East without giving any guarantees to the Arabs that it will be committed to a lasting settlement, said the writer. The Palestinians, he said, should refuse to substitute Arab policemen for the Israeli troops to keep peace in the occupied Gaza Strip unless that step constitutes part of an overall plan for a lasting settlement ensuring the return of Arab lands to Arab sovereignty.

By Carol Giacomo  
Reuters

WASHINGTON — These have not been the best of times for U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

The former managing partner of one of Los Angeles's most powerful law firms recently endured a new pummeling in the national press for America's schizophrenic Bosnia policy.

He has also seen the Mideast peace process in which he invested personal capital deteriorate with a week-long bombing campaign by Israel against pro-Iranian Hizbollah guerrilla targets in South Lebanon.

Arguably, he has faced far harsher judgments in his first six months in office than his predecessor, James Baker, as he wrestled with crises left over from the Bush administration — Bosnia's civil war and stymied Mideast peace talks.

But Mr. Christopher insisted in a Reuters interview that U.S. foreign policy is moving forward, that Clinton administration action in this area must not just be viewed exclusively through the Bosnia prism and that better days lie ahead.

"Sometimes a person in my position just has to tough it out," the 67-year-old lawyer said of the criticism.

His arguments have some credence, according to experts.

The administration received high marks for its performance at last month's Tokyo economic summit, for toughening U.S. trade policy towards Japan, for spelling out U.S. interests in Asia, for strongly supporting Russian President Boris Yeltsin and leading the charge for international aid for his reforms.

Also viewed positively is recent progress on returning democracy to Haiti and in engaging North Korea in bilateral talks on nuclear issues that have been modestly successful.

Mr. Christopher revived Arab-Israeli peace talks earlier this year when he defused a crisis over Palestinian deportees and mediated the ceasefire between Israel and Hizbollah that allowed his trip to the Middle East this week to go forward.

Despite this, there are lingering questions about whether he is the right man to be America's chief diplomat in this critical world-shaping post-cold war time.

And while Bosnia is only one

issue, many experts see it as a critical test case for U.S. and western approaches to nationalist conflict in this new era, for the United Nations and NATO and for multilateralism.

Known as the consummate lawyer's lawyer, Mr. Christopher is regarded as a close confidant and loyal eminence grise who is among Mr. Clinton's most trusted advisers on a myriad of issues.

But does he have the vision needed to shape foreign policy in a creative way in an era of momentous change, to lead and compete in the hardball game of international politics that is often required to make that policy hap-

pen and to support the use of force when necessary as a tool of diplomacy?

On Monday, Mr. Christopher warned Arab and Israeli parties "decision time" on Mideast peace negotiations was approaching. But can he persuade them he means business?

The United States is once again threatening military action against Serbs. But given an administration record of threats and withdrawals of threats can this be credible?

Senior aides say Mr. Christopher is a dogged practitioner who will be vindicated by end results. Others are not so sure.

## 'Toughing it out' in hard times

### Mr. Chris-talker:

We can't have real peace around here if we just keep talking about it!



How about just to keep talking about it?!



## In battle for Jerusalem, Arabs feel they are loosing to bricks and mortar

By Neil MacFarquhar  
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The battered wooden trays at Abu Mahfouz's Bakery spill over with flat Arab loaves, their aroma mingling with black coffee and thyme pizzas. The shop smack in the middle of the old city's Jewish quarter attracts customers from all religions.

Israeli leaders point to this kind of juxtaposition when insisting that Jerusalem remain united both as a successful blend of cultures and Israel's capital.

Palestinian negotiators, supported by the Arabs, say they should control the eastern part of the city to retain the Muslim character of the neighbourhoods surrounding Al Aqsa Mosque, the third holiest site in Islam.

But new figures show that the eastern part of the city has lost its Arab majority. In the battle for Jerusalem, bricks and mortar are winning as Jewish residents fill new settlements.

This battle lies at the heart of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit Tuesday.

Palestinian negotiators hope he will bring a new menu for the talks that will include discussions on the future of Jerusalem. Palestinians reject the current draft that suggests delaying that volatile issue until the end.

"We do not wish to discuss this particular draft, Jerusalem is

occupied territory and should be under Palestinian authority," said spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi.

The battle goes back to Israel's 1948 birth. Jerusalem ended that war in two hy a swath of barbed wire and mine fields.

"When the city was divided before 1967 it was a sad city," said Larry Rifkin, spokesman for Teddy Kollek, mayor since the Israeli army captured East Jerusalem from Jordan that year.

Mr. Kollek, 82, has long argued that only one municipal government can assure calm in a fractious environment. Israel annexed the whole city in 1980, but no country recognises that.

"You can't have two sovereignities. It would reduplicate it as effectively as a wall," said Mr. Rifkin.

To erase the old lines Israel spent the past 26 years investing in the largest building programme since the Ottoman Emperor Suleiman the Magnificent erected the 16th century city walls.

Just outside those walls, luxury penthouses with rents of \$7,000 per month obliterate the former no-man's-land.

The outskirts witnessed the biggest transformation. The red-rain municipal boundaries zigzag over the hills to incorporate the new settlements while pushing the Arab towns outside. Jewish suburbs spill over 17 kilometres of confiscated land.

Villa sales are collapsing in other occupied land, but boom in

Jerusalem. When thousands rushed to move into Pisgat Ze'ev, a newly finished northern settlement, it tipped the population balance, said Deputy Mayor Avraham Kehilla.

No Jews lived in the eastern sector of the city before 1967. Now there are 160,000, compared to 155,000 Muslim and Christian Arabs, Mr. Kehilla said. Another 40,000 Jews live in settlements that may soon be brought into the city lines.

Of the total 548,000 population, Jews make up 72.8 per cent and Arabs 27.6 per cent.

"I am sure that it is impossible to change back," said Mr. Kehilla, calling it the "beginning of the end" of attempts to reduplicate Jerusalem.

The government has almost completed a ring of settlements on the eastern side of the city, with similar frenetic construction to the West.

Subsidised apartments attract young families. Mr. Kehilla said that 16,500 housing units were also planned for the Arab sector, but were suspended because Arabs couldn't afford them.

Palestinians believe they are deliberately being squeezed out through an expensive, slow permit system.

Geographer Khalil Tufaqji estimates that 40,000 Palestinians who by birth have Israeli-issued passes to live in Jerusalem cannot because they never get building permits.

"There has been a planned process to eradicate the Palestinian presence," said Hanna Siniora, a newspaper editor.

He said Palestinians really woke up to the change in March, when the occupied territories were sealed for security reasons and outsiders needed Israeli permission to enter Jerusalem.

That is why the Palestinians insist on getting the city on the agenda now before what they call more "facts on the ground" push them out.

"Even if we are a minority, does this mean we have no rights?" said Azmi Shuweibi, a senior advisor to the Palestinian peace talks delegation.

He said Palestinians do not demand that Israel remove its capital or divide the city. They want equal rights and their own capital in the eastern sector.

That too is the wish of men like 54-year-old Ahmad Mabfouz at the bakery. Although most customers are Jewish, the tolerant days of his grandparents are gone. Occasionally someone sprays mace at his grandchildren for selling loaves on the Jewish Sabbath.

He wants to live, to work, to worship without needing the special permits brought by occupation.

"I want to live the way that they live," he said, indicating the Israelis stopping to buy his thyme pizzas.

## Villagers criticise U.N. for withdrawing

By Sheila McNulty  
The Associated Press

THMAR PUOK, Cambodia — As the United Nations prepares to end its largest peacekeeping operation ever, battle-weary Cambodians say the world body has failed in its main aim here — to completely end 15 years of civil war.

During a five-day trip across the country's two tensest provinces, villagers expressed dismay that U.N. forces are to begin withdrawing this month while the clatter of rifle fire and the thump of exploding rockets, grenades, and mines still echo across some areas.

The Khmer Rouge guerrilla group fought the former

Vietnamese-installed government for more than a decade. Now it is fighting the armed forces of the newly elected government.

"I don't think the U.N. did a good job here because they never dealt with the Khmer Rouge," says Kousum Sarun, a 40-year-old driver in Siem Reap province. "They did not bring peace."

The last U.N. peacekeepers are to leave the country by mid-November.

The 17-month U.N. mission was to monitor a 1991 ceasefire called by the country's four factions, and to disarm and demobilise the factions' almost 200,000 troops. It was then to guide the country through democratic elections last May to end two decades of conflict.

But one of the factions, the Khmer Rouge, refused to lay down its weapons. The other three factions followed suit and skirmishes continued.

By May, the United Nations had spent much of its \$2 billion budget — the biggest ever for a peacekeeping operation. And having committed 22,000 personnel and tonnes of equipment to Cambodia, it pushed ahead with the pull.

About 90 per cent of the electorate turned out to vote, and by most yardsticks the elections proved a resounding success.

But the continued Khmer Rouge attacks have villagers in some areas questioning the success of the mission and hoping for a continuing U.N. shield. But

compared to the pre-election period, the overall level of violence has decreased.

The Khmer Rouge still controls 20 per cent of Cambodia with a fighting force of 10,000 men. The guerrilla group killed hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during a brutal reign in the mid-1970s.

While the new government's flag flaps above the capital, the different flags of the four factions dot some provinces.

In the northwestern province of Banteay Meanchey, checkpoints remain on roads between villages controlled by the Khmer Rouge and each of the three other factions. The latter are technically united under the newly elected government.

Peace calls Mr. Christopher "an extremely weak advocate for the ooe remaining superpower".

Mr. Christopher does not seem as controlling of the press or the State Department bureaucracy, as Mr. Baker. However, some experts say his senior managers are weak, with few exceptions like undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs Joan Spero.

Mr. Christopher came under attack after he failed during a May European trip to convince U.S. allies to go along with President Bill Clinton's proposal to lift an arms embargo that has hurt outgunned Bosnian Muslims the most and to use limited air strikes

to protect them temporarily against Serb attacks.

There was speculation Mr. Christopher did not really support the "lift and strike" option and thus could not sell it.

Others theorised that Mr. Clinton, who had vowed tougher action against Serbs, realised there was little public backing for any action and sent Mr. Christopher to just consult with Europeans instead of pressing them on the U.S. proposal.

New York Times columnist William Safire concluded Mr. Christopher was "not yet on top of the job" as secretary.

Mr. Christopher, interviewed on Friday, insisted: "I strongly supported lifting the arms embargo and made the strongest case I could for it." But Britain and France were firmly opposed.

"There are lingering questions about whether he is the right man to be America's chief diplomat in this critical world-shaping post-cold war time."

He drew new fire two weeks ago when, asked at a news conference about possible new initiatives to save Sarajevo from falling to Serbs, he said three times: "The United States is doing all it can consistent with our national interest."

In the interview, he gave conflicting explanations for his remarks, suggesting they were overinterpreted by reporters but also hinting they may have been deliberately ambiguous.

"You have to take the heat for the administration, particularly when we're in the midst of a policy review, in order to protect the president's options if you can't describe where you might possibly be going... I was certainly caught in that moment," he said.

He said U.S. foreign policy successes have thus far been overshadowed by Mr. Clinton's "quite right" preoccupation with the economy but will become clearer through a series of speeches that will be given in the next few months.

### LETTERS

#### Ingrates around us!

To the Editor:

I AM not a journalist or pretending to be one, but a concerned Jordanian citizen who cares about this country coming under constant attacks on its institutions and policies from the so-called self-appointed journalists hiding behind the facade of objectivity and the freedom of speech which was offered to them and abusing that privilege.

It is time that newspapers examined the qualifications of such journalists from a professional point of view and not by their political aspirations.

What compelled me to write and voice my opinion is an article written by Ann Sawalha in the Jordan Times, July 29-30, 1993, regarding the lack of sanitary facilities, of tissue paper, of clean baths and toilets in our airline planes, at the borders and in the Jordan Valley.

Frankly, I am appalled by such attacks against my country from someone who came recently to this country for a visit or to settle, whether that person is a foreigner or Jordanian. I want to assure those people that Jordan was never dirty and we had enjoyed a good and prosperous life due to the constant care of His Majesty. We had political stability, economic growth, prosperity on all levels. It is easy to forget that period when our selfish demands are not met. It is high time that we reevaluate ourselves first and then, if we have not contributed to the destruction of our nation, we could criticise this country objectively.

It is about time and it is our duty to start offering and not receiving all the time. Let us think of what we can offer this country and not what this country should offer us. This country has offered a lot and we should not take what was given for granted. We should appreciate what we have. In my opinion what was offered is more than we deserve. The dilemma is not what the country can give, it is we, as Jordanian citizens, who are never satisfied.

Jordan with its limited resources was able to withstand all the obstacles, whether political, economic or social, the influx of refugees, unemployment, embargoes imposed upon us by certain circumstances beyond our control. Let us forget what happened and start a new phase in our lives and stop lamenting and crying about the past. Every country had faced setbacks and we are not an exception to the rule. But because we were spoiled by the good life, we could not adapt to the sudden changes as individuals, nor were we able to improvise new ideas and solutions.

Jordan managed to stand on its own feet and meet the challenges. I have never seen a country with its limited resources and with the problems and upheavals this country had faced and survived, and yet we managed to overcome all the obstacles due to the efforts of His Majesty.

Let us look forward and appreciate what we have and compare Jordan to other countries and let us work together and forget about our selfish demands no matter what they are because others have lost more than we did. We are lucky to be alive and able to sustain the problems and absorb the ills and disappointments.

Let us be objective and help His Majesty who is doing his utmost to heal the wounds which have divided the Arab World, and let us put our selfish demands aside and for once let us read something more objective, and constructive, in our newspapers.

(Retd.) Col. Nasser Mirza,  
Jordan Valley Arabian Stud,  
P.O. Box 926500,  
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.



By Fadia Faqir

## In search of Andalusia

Ever since I was a little girl, playing in the courtyard of a Muslim house, I have been wondering about the Koran I was being taught. In adolescence, questions would come to mind: Why are some of the references to women an incitement to violence against them? Who are the seven hours promised to each true Muslim in paradise? Who are the women slaves or prisoners of war men can keep as courtesans?

I would ask myself, as Fatima Mernissi has done in "Women in Muslim Paradise": Do I have a place in the Muslim paradise? If the seven, ten, 46,000 hours — the number of hours given to each man varies according to interpretation — promised to true Muslim men are not Muslim women, then who are they? If they are not women believers then I have no place in the Islamic paradise.

What is this Islam which promises paradise to the true Muslim? There are many "Islam" in the Muslim World, based on different interpretations and applications of the Koran and Hadith. Furthermore, many Muslims follow a self-tailored Islam based on intuitive interpretation of the canons with some borrowing from the readings of the various Islamic schools of thought. In a tolerant world, all these different "Islam" should be able to coexist. However, in the Islamic World today, and among Islamic minorities in the West, there is what Salman Rushdie has described as "Already Existing Islam", with "granite, heartless certainties", stifling Muslim societies (The Guardian, 13/12/91). Between us and Allah stand the self-appointed clerics who claim to be the sole defenders of the Islamic faith, and who used the weapon of "holier than thou" to politicise Islam beyond recognition.

In "Already Existing Islam," Muslim women do not have a "room of their own" neither in the land of the living nor in the hereafter. "Already Existing Islam" is misogynic and strives to restrict women to a small, private space. It is obsessed with sex and sexuality, especially that of women. Many imams consider women as objects of desire lacking in rationality. At critical points of discussion with some Muslim men, I have been confronted with the following hadith: "Women are lacking in mind and religion". In a recent article in Al-Muslimum newspaper (No. 345, 13/9/91), Dr. Aisha Abdul Rahman, professor of religious sciences in Egypt, admitted that, "Yes, women are lacking in mind and I am lacking although I have reached the highest academic rank." She quoted the prophet saying, "A woman is like a crooked rib. If you try to straighten it you break it. If you don't you will enjoy it despite its crookedness." She also attacked Muslim feminists accusing them of being masculine.

Zuleikha Abu Rashed, a Muslim feminist, wrote as a counterargument — a piece, which is yet to find a home uncensored in the Arabic press, reminding Dr. Abdul Rahman that Arab women can be found in almost every walk of life. Responding to Dr. Abdul Rahman's implication that Muslim feminists are not only political opponents but ugly too, she wrote: "Women doctors in the Arab World do not run their hospitals with their emotions and looks."

Thus many women in Muslim countries find themselves in the most unfortunate position of being political opponents, branded as masculine and perceived as sex objects who should be silenced rather



Fadia Faqir

than represented. In Jordan, for example, there seems to be a policy, which is allegedly based on the sacred, that women lawyers cannot become judges. Some of the apologetic, twisted arguments go like this: a miscarriage of justice would have taken place in the Kennedy rape case if the American woman judge had been suffering from pre-menstrual tension. Year in, year out, many Jordanian women lawyers, some of them, like Asma Khader, among the best in the country, sit for the exam to become judges and fail.

This social structure which is based on male dominance and opposition to women's self-determination is not sympathetic to women writers. To become a writer in such hostile surroundings is to enter into a conflict with the religious and political orders. To become a woman writer is to face a double challenge since Already Existing Islam denies women a voice.

Although men's writing is being censored, there is a kind of censorship that is applicable to Muslim women only: being accused of having no honour (sharaf), which for some reason carries more weight than men's honour. The fear of being accused of being "loose" looms over many Muslim women's uncovered heads. A Muslim woman must be masurah, a word meaning "chaste", with connotations of "hidden" and "silent". Despite opposition to women's writing, many Arab Muslim women choose writing as a way to freedom, by taking sides in the religious, social and political struggle. Muslim women have chosen to write in societies which forbid any discussion of sex, religion and politics in the classroom. As a consequence, they suffer slander, banning and imprisonment.

A recent example of this was a certain Friday prayer sermon in Amman in April 1991. Ibrahim Zaid Al Kilani, who was then the Jordanian Minister of Religious Affairs, attacked women writers, such as Zuleikha Abu Rashed in the name of Islam. In one of her weekly columns in Al Rai, Abu Rashed had criticised the segregation of sexes in one of the ministries. Mr. Al Kilani's counterargument went something like this: "These women writers, these fallen creatures, they creep up newspaper columns, I know them very well. They are daughters of Zion whose objective is to destroy Islam. They are the western agents among us". Her crime, and that of others like her, in the numerous articles she has written about Islam, is to criticise the practices of Already Existing Islam's clergy and to call for the modernisation of Islamic thought.

Thus, the censorship imposed by the authoritarian Arab state is also imposed by

the mosque. Islam is being constantly used and abused by self-appointed clerics and self-elected regimes. The implication of Mr. Al Kilani's sermon is that these women writers' place in the social hierarchy is the inferno; they are the traitors of the East, anti-Palestinian and morally corrupt. That cocktail of slander, damnation and treason is very strong, and hard for the masses to resist falling for.

But if there is no place for me in the Muslim paradise of some, then I have my own vision of Muslim paradise: the Islam of eleventh century Andalusia, or how I imagine it to have been. Imagination is respected by this Islam, which was the Arab bearer of art and science to medieval Europe. Translators of Greek and Persian books were not stabbed, but rather given gold equal in weight to the books they had translated. The Islam of Andalusia, sure of its identity, was open to other cultures and influences. This was an Islam committed to the pursuit of knowledge and literacy with all their consequences. Burning books was alien to it.

To escape all kinds of censorship, and in pursuit of the Andalusian paradise, I left my country, committing myself to a life in exile. Then the Satanic Verses was burnt. Muslims of Britain were not asked whether they agreed with that fiery campaign.

Many British Muslims believe that the burning of the book has damaged race relations in many parts of Britain and that the campaign launched by the mosques has backfired on the Muslim community, which now suffers even more hostility from the not-so-hospitable white majority. This raises the question of whether there is a homogeneous Muslim community in Britain or whether the Muslim community is divided along ideological, linguistic and national lines. And even if there is a united Muslim community, those who claim to represent it have not been elected. Many Muslims and Muslim Arabs, who have lived under authoritarian regimes in the past, refuse to be represented by clerics who have not been elected. Many Muslims do not want rash, heroic, hasty actions to be committed in their name.

One step towards the true representation of Muslims, towards my Andalusia, would be for all Muslims to study carefully the lessons of their own history, and the history of modernism in the West. The application of democracy and the adoption of unhierarchical structures might lead to the demise of the "political and priestly power structure that at present dominates and stifles Muslim societies."

Another step might be to reexamine the position of women in Islamic society. Muslim feminists are not arguing for a monopoly of power, they are calling for the sharing of it. Combating the misogyny of Already Existing Islam might lead to the liberation of Muslim women and the establishment of a more egalitarian Islamic society. A serious attempt to reexamine Islam in this way might pave the way to the establishment of an egalitarian Islamic society where both men and women would have the same space — in this life and the next.

Fadia Faqir is a Jordanian writer and academic working at the Middle East Centre — St. Antony's College — Oxford. She is editing a series on Arab women's writing for Garnet Publishing. Ms. Faqir's first novel Nisamit was published by Penguin, her second novel Pillars of Salt is forthcoming and she is currently working on her third novel The Black Iris Crossing, on the plight of a Jordanian Arab woman living in the West.

## Diary



### GOING HOME, I'VE DONE MY TIME:

THIS IS DIARY ITEM NO. ONE: We can think of no better way to start this week's Diary than with a caricature, conceived and produced by Jordan Times' new cartoonist Imad Hajjaj. The caption reads as follows: "Depuis without a job are now free to practise political gossip." This is what the Diary is all about: Welcome to the Club, gentlemen of the House.

★ ★ ★

**HARVARD ECONOMICS IN FARAWAY PLACES:** Dr. Fahed Faneek, the prominent Jordanian economist who writes daily columns for the Arabic daily Al Rai (and a weekly column for its sister the Jordan Times) got a boost last week for his crusade against Harvard University's Institute for Social and Economic Policy in the Middle East. The institute, directed by a Dr. Leonard J. Hausman, stands accused by Dr. Faneek of being a "Jewish think-tank (oriented) to serve the interests of Israel in a very intelligent manner." Dr. Faneek's immediate wrath against that academic body was incurred by a report published recently on "economic transition for securing peace in the Middle East" which claimed to be the product of a two-year research by Jordanian, Palestinian and Israeli economists. The boost for the Jordanian economist's position came when a number of Arab graduate students at the institute sent him a copy of a letter they had directed to the president of the university, complaining about Hausman's and his colleagues' aims to normalise Arab-Israeli relations before a peace settlement is achieved on the basis of total Israel withdrawal from the occupied territories. While expressing commitment to a peaceful solution of the problems in the area, the Arab fellows protested to the president the approach the institution has adopted on the issue of economic cooperation integration of the countries in the region. Calling this approach "unethical," the group of fellows said: "Capitalising on the credibility and trustworthiness of Harvard University to bring Arab scholars into line with this scheme is insensitive and short-sighted. The Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, the legitimate rights of the Palestinians under occupation and the right to live in a just and lasting peace were issues neither discussed nor addressed." Dr. Faneek was himself commissioned at one stage to work on a study for the institute related to the same subject of Arab-Israeli economic cooperation after peace. But he did not stay the course due to his "adamant" attitude, as he put it, that no normalisation of relations should take place before Israel withdrew its forces from the West Bank and Gaza. It was only partly due to his historical disagreement with the management of the institute that Dr. Faneek launched his crusade against the new report. The other part is his disenchantment with those Jordanians who participated in drafting the report and who failed to renounce the conclusions that apparently called for early normalisation. In his most recent article on the issue in Al Rai newspaper, Dr. Faneek said the attack included in it would be his last. Whether the subject would ever voluntarily surface again, however, remains highly uncertain.

★ ★ ★

**DEMOCRACY BOOMERANGS:** Abdulla Ensour, the popular people's deputy from Salt who fought and won his campaign of 1989 mainly on a platform of "democracy for all people" and "fight against corruption," has just had a close shave with ill effects of both banners. As if to give him a taste of his own medicine, the tabloid newspaper Shihan wrote an article last month in which the former minister of trade and industry was implicated as having received a kickback while in office. In the story Shihan claimed that Dr. Ensour, while serving as minister in the Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker's government bypassed the recommendation of the secretary general of his ministry and awarded a JD 11.4 million tender to an unnamed company. According to the report, the new minister, Bassam Al Saket, overturned Dr. Ensour's decision because the company's offer did not comply with the required specifications. The paper's report basically implied that Dr. Ensour had made a deal with the company that could give him personal benefits. Two weeks later, however, Shihan published a small, one column item saying that they stand corrected if the public misunderstood their report to mean causing any harm to Dr. Ensour. Being the shrewd and impeccable politician he is, Dr. Ensour naturally felt that the tabloid's apology was not actually a retraction of what was already published. A week later, he sent a short letter to the paper challenging anyone to prove "that the Ministry of Trade and Industry can allocate any tenders to any side" anyway. "While I strongly deny those allegations against me," Dr. Ensour wrote, "I reserve the right to (pursue this case) against those 'forces', not unknown to the public, who have been behind the scheme (to smear my name)."

Nermeen Murad

## U2 gives people of Sarajevo a voice

By Paul Holmes — Reuter

**SARAJEVO** — For a few minutes on one recent night, fireman Enes Zlatar was able to prick the conscience of 34,000 Europeans and tell the girlfriend he has not seen for 17 months that he loves her. Zlatar, 23, was in Sarajevo, and speaking by television satellite link to his fiancée Lala Cengic and his fellow human beings 1,800 kilometres away at a rock concert by Irish megaband U2 in Stockholm.

A series of live hook-ups on U2's European tour has given ordinary people in the

Serb-besieged Bosnian capital a link for the first time with a world they fear has forgotten that they are human too.

Their words are direct and powerful, unfiltered by the news media and uncensored by politicians. "I just want to ask you as a European like you are. Is it okay for you to watch us daily for 17 months dying slowly in this prison hell?" Zlatar told the crowd in Stockholm from a dark and dingy corridor of Sarajevo's television building.

Then he spoke to Cengic, a 22-year-old Bosnian war refugee living in Sweden, for

only the sixth time since the siege of Sarajevo began in April last year.

"Lala, I'm still alive as you can see and so are our families too. I just want to say to you that I love you so much." The link-ups were the brainchild of Bill Carter, a young American photographer and filmmaker who has lived in Sarajevo since April.

He made his way to Verona, Italy, early last month to interview U2 lead singer Bono for Sarajevo Television and the idea of the regular talk slot during the group's tour was born after Bono said he wanted to do something to

help. Unlike the music world's Live Aid fundraising drive for African famine victims, there are no appeals for money, no calls for humanitarian help for suffering Sarajevans.

"It can't be pathetic. It can't be aggressively blaming people. It's to remind Europeans that this is part of their continent," Carter, a 27-year-old from San Francisco, said. "The very simplest idea is that this is your problem too and if you don't take care of it it will be your problem in a huge way."

"It's not about U2. It's not about me. It just happens to be a very unique medium

that's very different from TV or the newspapers."

Carter, who says he gets no money for his work, introduces his guests with a few words on the latest situation in Sarajevo.

He has also provided video footage of scenes of life in the city, the most cultured and cosmopolitan in former Yugoslavia until the war, for display on huge screens at U2's concerts.

The talk slots are taped as they happen in the Sarajevo studios of the European Broadcasting Union and then broadcast on local television and radio in a package with pre-recorded U2 songs.

Zlatar, who was studying

civil engineering until the war between Serbs, Croats and the Muslim-led Bosnian government, said his message could not have been delivered by a politician.

"They would never say we're all the same people. They just want to divide us into tribes," he said.

He was not able to see his girlfriend because the satellite link was one-way only from the concert to Sarajevo. But he managed to talk to her afterwards by satellite telephone.

"She said that she just cried. She said what I said sounded so perfect. She adores me," he said with a huge smile.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### A female perspective on history

Portraits of Palestinian Women

By Orayb Aref Najjar

University Of Utah Press, Salt Lake City 1992, \$24.95 Since the intifada began, five years ago, much has been written about the role of Palestinian women. Their emergence as a self-conscious movement, their activities against the occupation and their many agonising dilemmas have provided material in abundance for a steady procession of "experts", actual and aspiring. In consequence, standards of excellence in this field have risen considerably over the past few years.

This book may be judged a reasonably competent effort and one which employs an effective formula. It intersperses background information, starting from the early days of women's involvement during the British Mandate, with a series of interviews with Palestinian women from different backgrounds and experiences.

Some of the women are well known figures within the community, such as Zahira Kamal and Samiha Khalil, while others are more obscure. The brave, nameless women without whom Palestinian history would be a much bleaker affair. Their stories, without exception, are instructive. They describe many individual and collective acts of ingenuity, courage and creativity and, marching side by side with these, a mind-numbing catalogue of Israeli repression against the women, their families and their land. Resistance, it would appear, is a thankless task although, as the interviews show, it has its rare and joyful moments of vindication.

Orayb Najjar is to be congratulated, therefore, for a avoiding too intrusive an approach. My only criticism is her

occasional tendency to over-simplify. Assertions such as "although Palestinian women are deeply involved in the nationalist Palestinian struggle, perhaps sometimes at the expense of their demands as women, the West knows them only as shadowy veiled figures with no interest in politics" are hard to accept given the recent avalanche of books and articles about these women and also the very visible presence in the current peace talks of Hanan Ashrawi. Otherwise, Ms. Najjar has performed her task admirably. She has chosen to provide just the right amount of explanatory text. It manages to weave the women's accounts together in a coherent pattern with several well defined themes: The initial loss of Palestine, attachment to the land, encounters with the Israeli authorities, institution-building in the West Bank, and a variety of creative responses to life under occupation — Middle East International.

Maria Holt

### Of a genre all his own

Lebanon, Fire And Embers: A History Of The Lebanese Civil War

By Dilip Hiro

Weidenfeld and Nicolson, London 1993, £25, and St. Martin's Press, New York 1993, \$35

This is the third in a series of books of a type that Dilip Hiro has made peculiarly his own and which he is very good at: A comprehensive overarching review of a Middle Eastern war written a little while after the events, which the dust has had time to settle. His first volume was The Longest War, on the Iran-Iraq war; the second. From

Desert Shield to Desert Storm, was on the campaign of the U.S.-led war against Iraq; the subtle to the rather fancy title of this volume makes clear that it is on the long-drawn-out Lebanese civil war.

Dilip Hiro's books are not just chronological accounts; he does analyse and evaluate events and put them into a framework. He makes quite clear that the real cause of the "war" was the determination of the Maronite community — increasingly dominated by its bigoted militants — to retain the political privileges granted them by the French during their mandate over Lebanon. So much for the "villain" of the peace; as for the "hero", or at least the victor, it is indubitably Syrian President Assad, who was equally determined to maintain Syria's special position in Lebanon as the dominant factor in that country, a role that no one else was allowed to usurp. With consummate statecraft he saw off all other challenges — the French and the British, Israel and the U.S. and Iraq, though in the end Syria has had to concede a role, a minor circumscribed one, to Iran.

According to Hiro, the major mistake of the Maronites, who at one point had the Syrians on their side, was to look to Israel as their last protector, ignoring the fact that Israel and Syria are chronically hostile to each other, that alliance was simply too dangerous for Syria to accept. After all, Hiro claims, quite early in the civil war there were no less than 1,500 Israeli "advisers in Marounistan".

Having established that for four years out of the 15 of the civil war, Lebanon was "relatively quiet" and that 3,500 persons were killed in the first five years, Hiro makes a quantum jump when he claims that, in all, 150,000 persons were killed in Lebanon. A more realistic calculation would be, at most, somewhere between 75,000-100,000, probably nearer the lower figure. Against this must be set his acceptable figure of 20,000 Lebanese civilians killed by the Israelis in their frequent, almost routine, aggressions on their helpless neighbour, whom they hammered on the slightest pretext and sometimes, as in the 1978 incursion, without any pretext — Middle East International.

G.H. Jansen



## Peter Brook — the theatre of the depths

By Jean-Marc Dupuich

**Peter Brook is like Socrates who said that he was not a citizen of Athens, but of the world. This Englishman, who has his theatre in Paris and runs an (obviously international) Theatre Research Centre, travels all over the world to meet a public which is rich in its diversity.**

PARIS — "Companies tend to be made up of people coming from the same class, who share the same points of view and have the same aspirations. The International Theatre Research Centre is based on the opposite principle. We have brought together actors who had nothing in common, neither language, nor codes, nor jokes", is what one can read in "Points de Suspension: 44 Ans D'Exploration Theatrale" (Suspension Marks: 44

Years of Theatrical Exploration), the work that he has just brought out with the "Le Seuil" publishers.

It is not at all with the idea of bringing together young actors coming from different countries and taking advantage of the cultural habits of each of them, and of the techniques peculiar to national forms of expression for the purpose of spicing up performances with folkloric quotations.

For theatre is not an end in

itself. "We seek what gives its true life to a form of culture," by ridding it of its stereotypes. "Relieved of his ethnic mannerisms, a Japanese becomes more Japanese, and an African more African." At this point, one achieves an authentic diversity between the actors which enables them to create together.

"It is not unlike what happens in a piece of orchestra music in which each sound keeps its identity and, at the same time, blends in a new harmony." The comparison with music is continued with the emotion that it engenders: "Our aim is to attempt to obtain something, in theatre, which affects, as music can do."

This means that the actors have to be "instruments putting across truths which otherwise would remain unnoticed." Theatre work demands total involvement. It is

experimenting with "true life". "The body has to be ready and receptive, but that is not all. The voice has to be open and free. The emotions have to be open and free. The intelligence has to be alert", for the author is the person who is in a position to reflect the subtle currents of human life."

### Mahabharata

For the theatre to put across truths, not apophorisms nor scientific laws, but the "savour of mankind", the work on the text, like that of the actor on himself, must erase the superficial, remove appearances in order to reveal "the deep nutritive substance." With all the conditions brought together, the theatre is then a celebration of life, shared by the actors and the spectators.

That is why "the prime virtue of a performance is to be living and the second to be comprehensible." A theatre

show is neither hermetic, nor a narcissistic pleasure. It implies the acceptance and recognition of the other person. "Theatre only exists at the precise moment when those two worlds (that of the actors and that of the spectators) come together."

One can understand that "two performances can never be identical" and that the quest for a public is so vital that the centre travels throughout the world and societies, "playing in isolated villages or in problem suburbs, to racial minorities, old people, children, delinquents, the mentally handicapped, the deaf, the blind, etc."

Although the centre is nomadic, its home base is in the working class district of Paris at the Bouffes du Nord Theatre. This old Italian-style theatre, which has fallen into oblivion after the gilt, the deep red upholstery

and the chandeliers had been ripped out and the stage removed, immediately appealed to Peter Brook, who decided to keep it in that condition. Relieved of its cultural apparatus, reduced to its simple architecture and the nudity of the materials, it offers a stage area (perhaps unique in the world) where theatre can be enhanced by the reality of natural elements: Earth, water and fire.

As the planks of the stage have disappeared, Carmen raised the Seville dust, dancing among real fires. For The Tempest, tonnes of red earth were brought in, then carefully shaped and partly covered over with a layer of fine sand. And the actors in Mahabharata, that sacred narrative of Hinduism, draw the original strength of their cosmogonic adventure from the very earth and water themselves — L'Actualite En France.

## East meets West at Misha's Party on night of Soviet coup

By Jill Serjeant

REUTERS  
LONDON — On a rainy Moscow night in August 1991, a Russian businessman called Mikhail is trying to reunite his fractious family for a party.

Out on the streets one half of the Soviet government is trying to overthrow the other.

Almost two years on, the abortive attempt to remove Mikhail Gorbachev from power has inspired a riveting piece of theatre co-written by a Russian and an American, neither of whom speaks the other's language.

Misha's Party had its world premiere at the Royal Shakespeare Company's London home last month and will be produced in Moscow early next year after an extraordinary East-West cultural collaboration.

Alexander Gelman, the Russian half of the duo, is a friend of Mr. Gorbachev's, a former deputy in the Soviet Congress and a speechwriter for Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Richard Nelson's work includes Two Shakespearean Actors, which was acclaimed in both London and New

York.

Surprisingly, given the Aug. 20, 1991 setting in an hotel overlooking Moscow's White House — the Russian parliament building from where Mr. Yeltsin directed resistance to the coup — the play is a comedy about a Russian and an American family caught up in seemingly intractable emotional tangles.

The confusion and tension on the barricades outside mirrors the birthday party inside as Mikhail's world begins to fall apart just as the abortive coup signals the beginning of the end for the

Soviet communist Party and Mr. Gorbachev himself.

The play was written with the help of two translators, several bottles of vodka and an intensive two weeks in a writer's colony in the United States.

What emerged was a detailed plot and character histories and slightly different scripts in Russian and English.

The Russian version will be more exact regarding the events on that momentous August night, which are conveyed in the play by the noises off-stage of crowds

chanting "Yeltsin, Yeltsin" and the ominous rumbling of tanks.

"There are a lot of people in Moscow now who wish that the coup-makers had won, whereas the play is written from the point of view of anti-coup-makers," said Gelman, who was in the Russian Parliament building during the putsch.

"The people in the (Moscow) audience will be of all kinds, so there may be conflicting reactions. But I don't think any fights will break out," he told Reuters in an interview.

The characters react with a

mixture of indifference, rage and fear to the coup unfolding around them but there are no rousing speeches and little political point-scoring.

"The world of the characters on stage is a world that is confused, full of emotional knots, where solutions are seemingly out of grasp," said Nelson.

The doomed birthday celebration also turns into an encounter between Soviet and American societies, juxtaposing a tottering Soviet system of food shortages and corruption against the hures of the land of plenty — for the rich.

Misha's Party is deliberately set in the middle of the coup, when its outcome was far from clear.

"At the end, nothing is resolved. There is chaos, ambiguity and deep historical weight which reflects both the world of the characters and the events outside," said Nelson.

There is no political message, except in as much as "there is a sense of optimism, a sense of embracing confusion and complexity and a willingness not to look for sentimental, simple solutions."

Nelson hopes the play will

go to the United States within the next year and it is already set for a run at the Moscow Arts Theatre.

Will Gelman invite either of his illustrious friends — and would they attend anyway?

"Gorbachev is more likely to go because he loves the theatre. Mr. Yeltsin is not much of a theatre-goer. If I drop him a note and ask him, he will come but I don't think I will make any special effort."

"Let him get on with the business of running the government. He has got quite a theatre of horror there on his hands."

## In the footsteps of Stradivarius

By Clare Pedrick

CREMONA, Italy — Every morning, as he has done for the past 25 years, violinist Prof. Andrea Mosconi performs a ritual dedicated to preserving the quality of some of the most beautiful stringed instruments ever made. In the quiet of the chamber normally used for conducting weddings at the city hall, Prof. Mosconi selects an Amati, a Guarneri and finally, a Stradivarius from the glass case where they are preserved. Then, one by one, he puts them through their paces. Playing the violins on a regular basis is the only way to keep their timbre from deteriorating.

All five violins in the collection, which range from between 250 and 420 years old, were made in this sleepy northern Italian town, an hour's drive from the bustling industrial capital of Milan. By a strange combination of chance and circumstance, Cremona has lived and breathed violins for almost half a millennium, ever since Andrea Amati crafted his first instrument here back in the early 1500s. Two centuries later, another Cremonese, Antonio Stradivari lived and

worked here, making the legendary violins which were to become more sought after than any other musical instrument ever produced.

Today, in a small workshop less than 500 yards from where Stradivari practiced his craft, the man many claim is his natural successor is bent earnestly over a half-finished instrument. Cremona has some 150 craftsmen turning out violins in workshops dotted around the small town. But Francesco Bissolotti — a shepherd's son who has made violins for the world's greatest players — is the maestro of them all.

"I live for making violins. My work is everything to me," says the master craftsman, a small, strong-looking man with a piercing stare and a thick black beard, in spite of his 64 years. Bissolotti held his first violin at the age of 9. He learned how to play. Then curiosity took over and he took an instrument apart to see how it was made. By the time he reached his 17th birthday he had made his first instrument. He studied the art of cabinet-making and at the same time attended Cremona's school for violin-makers. To make ends meet, he

polished furniture. It was to be 10 years before he sold his first instrument, for 30,000 lire — \$20 at current rates.

Today, there is a waiting list of two years for one of Bissolotti's violins, and the maestro can command much higher figures. His instruments sell for between 10 and 20 million lire (\$7,000 and \$14,000). Each one takes about 250 hours of painstaking work, all of it done by hand according to the rules first laid down by Amati five centuries ago. For although many have tried, no-one has yet succeeded in using modern-day technology to mimic the tone produced by a handmade instrument.

In Bissolotti's workshop, heady with the smells of natural glues and resins, much is as it would have been in the days of Amati or Stradivari. With nothing to break the silence except the rhythmic sound of rasping and chiseling, Bissolotti and his sons are engrossed in their craft. For, in the time-honoured tradition, this is very much a family business. Bissolotti has passed on his skills to three of his four sons, Maurizio, 37, Vincenzo, 35, and Tiziano, 34. Even his daughter, Rossana, studied under her father before giving up her work to marry and have a child. Only the eldest son, Marco, 38, has chosen a different path. He works as a psychiatrist.

"Making violins is something you have in your blood," says Vincenzo, as he hones away at a block of wood, the shutters closed against the strong sunlight to help him follow grain. "Of course, it is like any other job, but it is something you must have a feeling for."

"It is something you are born with," adds his father. "The secret of making good violins is in manual dexterity and intuition, but most of all in the sensitivity of the violin-maker. You must feel it with your heart. You must put your whole soul into it."

Francesco Bissolotti speaks of his instruments as living beings. None of them is identical, he says. Each has its own personality. "I never make two violins the same. There are different nuances,"

he said. "They are like children. All of them are human beings, but everyone has his own personality. In the same way, each violin has its own character."

"I always make good violins, but two out of every five or six I make will be exceptional," he adds. "Even if I don't know why. It is probably because we are all human and sometimes we are happy and sometimes we are sad. This is transmitted to our work, even though we may not know it."

Bissolotti maintains the instruments made by his three sons are all very different, though all of them are of high quality. Maurizio's violins reflect his own naturally creative and intuitive character, says his father. Vincenzo has a calm, reflective personality. His violins are made with meticulous attention to detail. Tiziano produces instruments which mirror his nature — impulsive and restless, but capable of bursts of creative genius.

Vincenzo, the middle son, has taken over from his father as teacher at Cremona's school of violin-making where Francesco Bissolotti himself learned his craft. Founded in 1938, the school has 130 pupils from around the globe. Currently, students taking the four-year course come from Russia, South Korea, Mexico, Japan, China, Hungary and Mexico. "To make a really fine violin you need a lot of experience, a good pair of hands and most of all, a great deal of patience," says Vincenzo, as he works away methodically. "I always say to my pupils: 'You must not try to make a violin, but THE violin.' It is very different."

Vincenzo was 14 when he joined his father as an apprentice. He never considered doing anything else. "Though if I hadn't been a violin-maker I would probably have gone into agriculture," he says. Intensely practical, with strong, steady hands, Vincenzo has little time for the hustle and bustle of the world outside the workshop and the quiet town where he grew up. He does not own a television set and spends his spare time tending

his plants and listening to opera. He laments the fact that few youngsters of today are prepared to invest the time and effort in learning a craft such as his. "Young people today are more interested in making money and having fast cars. They don't seem to understand that you have to make sacrifices at the beginning in order to see the fruits at the end," he says. "Even my pupils want to learn everything immediately. They want to know all the secrets straight away. They need to show more humility."

The long and laborious process of making a violin begins long before the craftsman begins carving and chiseling. Every year, Vincenzo and his father drive north to the foothills of the Alps and, accompanied by a forest ranger, go deep into the woods to choose their tree. This is the home of the finest quality red pine, the wood used for the front of the violin, prized because of its particular resonance. "You need to know everything about the wood — how old was the tree it came from, where it was grown — whether it was pointing north or south, all these factors affect the wood's acoustic potential," said Vincenzo. "The grain from the wood should be evenly spaced. You can tell from looking at the grain whether or not the tree has suffered any traumas such as extreme frost or drought."

The back, sides and neck of the violin are made from Balkan maple. Every so often, the Bissolottis go to a warehouse in Bavaria to choose the piece they want. Once they have selected their wood, they drive it back to Cremona, cut it into quarters and stack it under the eaves of their house to dry it naturally. Only when it has been seasoned — for a minimum of 10 years — will the wood be ready to work. Vincenzo is currently using wood laid down by his father 20 years ago. Said Francesco Bissolotti: "When the moment comes, I pick up a piece of wood and I know just by feeling it what kind of acoustic quality it will produce."

Slowly, and with great pati-



Francesco Bissolotti's son Vincenzo teaches at Cremona's school of violin-making which was founded in 1938

ence, the craftsmen breathe life into the wood. Vincenzo is painstakingly transforming a solid block of maple into a delicate arch shape. This will be the back of the instrument. The front is made of two separate pieces, stuck together to form a barely visible seam with the same natural fish glue used by Cremona's original violin-makers. Later, the instruments will be treated with natural resins and paints. "I never use anything chemical because chemicals affect the wood over a period of years," said Francesco Bissolotti.

Cremona's importance as a centre for carpentry, and for violin making in particular, is partly explained by its geographical position. Situated on the great River Po, which links the two coasts of Italy, it became a cultural crossroads between east and west in the 16th century. Resins from India, China and Greece were brought to Italy via Venice, the great trading port of the eastern Mediterranean. "Cremona was the natural half-way house between the east and western Europe," said Vincenzo. "The only way to get to the west was over the River Po. Cremona soon built up a fine tradition of marquetry and wood-working."

Vincenzo Bissolotti has made violins for orchestras

all over Europe, the U.S. and Japan. "But the greatest violin players want my father's instruments," he said candidly. "Only a few are born like my father." Among Francesco Bissolotti's clients are great names such as Italian violinist Uto Ughi, Japanese cellist Mary Fujimura and Russian-born cellist David Geringas. He once made a special five-stringed viola for Italian maestro Salvatore Accardo to enable him to play a particular sonata by Paganini.

Francesco Bissolotti is choosy about the people he sells to. He does not demand that they be famous. But he does insist that they be serious about their music. "When I make a violin, I put everything I've got into it. I expect the violinist to carry on the work I've started. I won't sell my violins to people who can't play them," he said. "I only accept payment once the violinist has tried the instrument and has decided he likes it," he added. "Violins are a matter of personal taste. It is like a woman for a man. It has to be almost love at first sight. Some violins have a deeper tone. Others have a lighter one. Not all violinists like the same sound."

Bissolotti has travelled the world for his work. But now, he says, he wants to spend his remaining years in his workshop, making as many violins as he can before he is forced into retirement. He hopes his grandchildren will follow on the tradition he himself began. At present, he has just one granddaughter, aged 18 months. "She is already showing an interest," he said, only half-joking. "When she comes here, I give her a piece of wood to play with and she is clearly very alert."

The maestro has already taught several female violin-makers. One of his former pupils, Wanda Zambelli, is now a well-established violin-maker in her own right. At present, his most promising apprentice is also a girl, 22-year-old Elisa Gaboardi. "Elisa is very gifted and intelligent," he said, gently guiding her hand on a half-finished cello. "Women are just as good as men at this work."

Will people one day talk of owning a Bissolotti, the way they talk of owning a Stradivari? "As a matter of fact, they already do talk of Bissolotti," said the master violin-maker. "I hope the instruments I have made will stand the test of time. It would be wonderful to think that my violins were being played two or three hundred years from now. As long as there is art and culture in the world, it won't be such a bad place."

World News Link.



Considered by many to be Stradivari's successor, Francesco Bissolotti makes violins for the world's best musicians



## Programming — addiction and necessity

By Jean-Claude Elias

We are at the turn of the twentieth century and virtually all personal computer (PC) users know by now that their beautiful machines would be absolutely useless without software programmes.

To carry out specific tasks takes specific programmes. Whether it's making calculations, writing letters, playing computer games or checking a bank account, one has to choose a suitable programme.

When electronic computers were introduced half a century ago, there was no such "ready-made" software and of course, no PCs. Specialists had to analyse the problem they were presented with and write a programme for this very matter. It is still the case nowadays whenever analysts face a new, unforeseen problem.

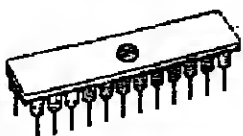
However, for all common needs, the software industry now proposes a truly amazing array of ready-made, extremely powerful and useful programmes that can make any mortal happy. A well chosen combination of a Spreadsheet, Data Base and Word Processing software will cover practically all the needs of a private user.

If this is the case, then are people still programming? What does it take to write programmes? Who still does it?

Two kinds of people would go through the painful and lengthy process of analysing a problem (or a job to be done) and writing a programme for it. Professional programmers to start with. They are the ones who design and produce the ready-made software that is so dear to us. Then comes a special class of zealous amateurs for whom such an activity has become an addiction.

Programming consists of understanding a given, well defined process, that follows basic rules of logic, analysing it in details and finally translating it into a written form, using a code (called programming language) that the

## chip talk



computer can assimilate and process. It can be as simple or, on the contrary, as complicated as one can imagine.

Writing a small programme that computes the number of days elapsed since your birth date till today is one thing and designing a set of programmes (called system) to process all the administrative work of a large corporation is another. If any person with a reasonable IQ and some training can do the first, it takes a highly talented, experienced professional to do the second. A programme can take thirty minutes and a few lines to write or it can make you work for months and years and be one million characters in size.

Programming is in itself a very challenging exercise. For the amateur or even the motivated pro, it's a brain teaser comparable to solving giant puzzles or crosswords, though at a much higher level. Skilled programmers often are good chess players too. For those of the intellectual type, it is an exciting activity that takes all their concentration and keeps them completely isolated from the real world they live in. It is very significant to note that the wives of these people are called "computer widows."

Some companies have designed software solutions that are called "programmes generators." The analyst would "explain" the problem to the computer, according to a certain algorithm. The computer would then generate the code (the difficult and lengthy part of the work) for the programme, saving him or her days and weeks of effort. It can be compared to automatic versus manual transmission in automobiles.

The fact remains that the power, the friendliness and the versatility of the popular ready-made packages like dBASE, Excel, Windows, MS-Word, WordPerfect, Lotus 123, Quattro, FoxBase and others have certainly reduced the number of private users who used to write their own software. Those still doing it are either full time professionals, making good money out of it, private users with specific needs or simply amateurs enjoying the technique.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

### BELIEVE IT OR NOT

★ The people of Ireland are the greatest eaters of potatoes in the world.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ A sick pig rarely curls its tail.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ The oldest recorded age of a horse is sixty-one years.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ One tonne of iron weighs three tonnes after it has completely rusted.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ The mouth of the Statue of Liberty measures three feet in width.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### LET'S LEARN ARABIC

— Of course.  
— Of course not.  
— Not at all.  
— If you like.  
— It's all the same to me.  
— Maybe.  
— I hope so.  
— He's nice.  
— She's polite.  
— It's dirty.  
— It's horrible.  
— It's disgusting.  
— You're not at all kind.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

GALILEE

The northern division of occupied Palestine (since 1948), divided into Upper and Lower Galilee. It is about 60 miles long and 30 miles broad, mainly hill country devoted to mixed farming and olive, tobacco plantations. It was the scene of most of the chief events in the life of Christ at that time being a Roman province. It is bordered by Lebanon (north), the Mediterranean Sea (West), Syria and Jordan (east), and the Jezreel plain (south). The chief towns are Tiberias and Nazareth. It was once a fertile and populous city. The Sea of Galilee, a lake in the Jordan Valley, lies 65 miles north of the Dead Sea, and is frequently mentioned in the Gospels.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### TIME FOR FUN

The affectionate Words

At a cocktail party the hostess could not help overhearing the conversation of a suave gentleman.  
"Oh, I adore her. I worship her," declared the gentleman.  
"I would too if she were mine," agreed his friend.

"The way she walks and swishes. Her beautiful, big, brown eyes; her head so proud and erect..."  
"You're very fortunate," commented his friend.  
"You're very fortunate," commented his friend.  
"And do you know what really thrills me? The way she nibbles on my ear."

"Sir," the hostess interjected. "I couldn't help listening to those affectionate words. In this day of numerous divorces I admire a man who so passionately loves his wife."  
"My wife?" said the gentleman surprised. "No, my champion race horse!"

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### YOUR DREAMS INTERPRETED

TEA: Trouble that will cause sleeplessness and bad health.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PICTURE: To dream of painting pictures denotes that you will engage in some unremunerative, albeit not unpleasant, enterprise.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SNOW: Success, money, plentiful harvest: (Eating snow) the dreamer will soon undertake a difficult journey: "Lost in snow" hostilities of enemies.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

RAIN: A lucky omen; an inheritance, prosperity, good crops: (Heavy storm) troubles and difficulties.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MILK: A sign of peaceful circumstances: Often means an increase in family: (Spilling) loss in business.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

HUSBAND: For a woman to dream of her husband is not a very favourable dream, usually foretelling discord and deceit: For an unmarried girl to dream that she has a husband is a very bad omen.

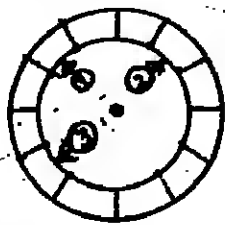
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### PUZZLES

Arrowwords

Each arrow points to the beginning of the word answering the appropriately numbered clue. The words extend from arrow to arrow, the final letter of one word becoming the first letter of the next.

Write your solutions clockwise into the "target", and remember, only the twelve letters in the lower diagram are to be used.



1 Be aware of.

2 Speak confidentially.

3 Instrument of torture.

A C E H I K N O P R S W

## Carol's diary

By E. Yaghi

The grueling summer semester was almost over and Carol could hardly wait. It had been exceptionally hot and hard and to top it all off, Carol's children who had been living in America studying and working, came for a visit. It was on one cool summer evening when she was in the middle of her university studying that the doorbell rang.

"Oh," she moaned. "I hope we aren't going to have company at this hour! I still have some reading left to do."

Her youngest son ignored her irritation and ran down the stairs to see who came. Carol wasn't even interested in her impending visitors for she knew she would find out soon enough. After a few moments she heard the voice of a small child and suddenly her son burst through the door with the gift of a grandchild.

"Oh, my Lord! Where did he come from? Are his parents with him?" she asked excitedly and rushed to grab the baby.

Her youngest son replied. "Well, what do you think, he came alone?"

Before she could fathom the meaning of it all, her daughter-in-law walked in the door with a younger baby and following her, was Carol's son.

He greeted her as if traveling overseas were a journey of 20 kilometres. "Hello, mom. Where's dad?"

"He just went to the mosque to pray. He won't believe that you came."

But then a voice said from behind the screen: "Mom, did you forget me? I decided to tag along too!"

There were a lot of screams of excitement and tears of happiness as Carol, her daughter-in-law, her two sons and her grandchildren reunited for the first time in two years. A few moments later, Carol's husband arrived and the whole reunion began once more. When things calmed down a bit, Carol's husband said: "What brought you here? And not a forewarning that you were coming. Why didn't anyone of you mention anything?"

"We wanted to surprise you!" they all answered at once.

Seeing her children was the greatest event and joy that Carol could imagine for she had missed them terribly since she saw them last. Her head swam with fond and happy memories of those good times that she had spent with them in America. But when she returned to Jordan, she had missed them too much. It was then that she requested to go to the university in order to fill the gap that had deepened since her children had settled overseas. But now, how could she

ever study? There was the pitter patter of little feet, bottles all over, and babies crying and Carol at last was able to taste the bliss of being a grandmother. Yet, Shakespeare became completely neglected and Macbeth and King Lear adventured in struggles that required a lot of study and concentration, but Carol found that the regular 24-hour day just wasn't long enough and that 48 would suit her better. She couldn't manage to sleep before 12 or 1 o'clock at night and she had to wake up at 6 a.m. She went to classes tired and worn out feeling like a limp rag.

"If only the children had waited and come a little later," Carol said to herself, "then I would have been able to enjoy them so much more. As it is, demography, philosophy and Shakespeare are classes that I do not devote enough time to. My studying has turned into a concept of wishful thinking and self-deception," she confided to a friend. "Passing these courses will become a feat."

"That may be so," her friend replied, "but tell me, how does it feel to be a grandmother?"

She admitted that indeed, it was the greatest feeling in the world. "The children are like little dolls and I adore having them around me. One of the best things about being a grandmother is when the kids cry, I can just hand them over to their mother and go on with whatever I was doing. That is a luxury I never enjoyed when my own children were small."

The long hot summer, crammed with classes, exams all too close together, kids and grandkids. What an experience for Carol to undergo. Sleepless nights, bags under her eyes, but she wouldn't trade this visit for all the gold in the world.

The hardest thing about receiving cherished company was saying "good-by." Could she accomplish this with parental ease? Would she be able to disguise the agony brewing in her heart like a cosmic storm and smile through all the tears and acclimatize and full of patient wisdom? Undoubtedly not. Her summer classes were almost at an end, but so too was her children's visit. And now presently, she must feign her husband's courage and pretend that life must go on, but does it? When loved ones travel and painful absence results, something in the heart wilts like a gentle flower and life becomes a bit dimmer and not as bright anymore. The sun is still there to shine, but not quite as radiant as before. Birds still sing in the trees but there song isn't as cheerful. Photographs of the endeared departed would be lovingly caressed in anticipation that the occupant of the land of dreams would one day return again and love, life and laughter fill the empty house.

## Singapore drive opens in punctuality

By Kenneth L. Whiting

**The Associated Press**  
SINGAPORE — The annual campaign to make Singapore's three million people more polite ended last Saturday and was immediately followed by another drive to get them to be punctual.

An estimated 200,000 people invited to wedding banquets, National Day celebrations and festivities involving the year's seventh full moon will be urged to be on time.

Tardiness is not yet a criminal offense in this island republic and the National Punctuality Working Committee can only prod for timeliness.

"Being on time means being considerate," said committee Chairman Toh Weng Chong.

The campaign mascot is a cartoon rooster grinning at his wristwatch and giving a thumbs-up gesture.

Previous drives made little headway in changing a deeply ingrained habit that seems oddly out of place in this otherwise hyper-efficient city-state.

Business and industry are not unduly troubled by late-

comers. School classes and sports events keep to the clock. Traffic jams are not tolerated. The subway runs on time and most flights depart from Changi Airport on schedule.

Tardiness at banquets is usually attributed to Chinese tradition, a belief that older and more important guests were expected to make an entrance after the others.

Arriving late is a snobbery sustained even by the humble, who may be forgiven for assuming that others will be late, so there is little point in being on time, lamented the Chinese language newspaper Sin Chew Jit Poh in 1977, after it mounted an ineffective campaign to eliminate such behaviour.

The habit was reinforced over the years, even among

non-Chinese as people became secure in the knowledge that the meal would have to be served after most of the guests arrived — late.

A booklet on local etiquette, subtitled "What not to do in Singapore and how not to do it," sponsored by the American School warned:

"If invited to a wedding dinner, it is not considered polite to arrive on time as this may be taken as a sign of greed. It is best to arrive about 20 to 30 minutes late."

President Wee Kim Wee kicked off the campaign which includes a punctuality jingle, prizes for those who arrive early at some functions and reminders on invitation cards.

Meantime, officials will assess the results of the 15th annual courtesy campaign, a

500,000 Singapore dollar (\$300,000) drive to persuade Singaporeans to mind their manners.

Earlier courtesy campaigns used posters, films, ads in newspapers and magazines to portray considerate behaviour. The publicity this year stressed discourtesy as examples to be avoided.

Surveys have shown that setting aside July as courtesy month has made some progress.

"There are signs that we are slightly more courteous now," said Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng, but he acknowledged that much remains to be done.

Few places use elaborate public campaigns as relentlessly to change behaviour and raise civic consciousness. They have been a way of life in Singapore for more than 30 years.

Some, like the courtesy drive, are hardly perennial, dealing with basic habits and culture. October was first declared "speak Mandarin month" in 1978, an effort to wipe out regional Chinese dialects in favour of the official tongue.

## JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Aug. 5

8:30 Too Close For Comfort

Mr. Big

9:10 Quantum Leap

Freedom

The star in this episode is George Washaky, an American Indian, who tries to save his old grandfather from the old people's home and take him to his tribal camp and let him live there.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie Of The Week — Suspect

Starring: Dennis Quaid, John Mahoney

Friday, Aug. 6

8:30 Head Of The Class

Dennis writes an article for the school paper and distorts what Mr. Moore told him and both get into trouble.

9:10 Reasonable Doubts

Graduation Day

Tissa stands up in court to prove that the rich Mr. Baker is guilty.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Echoes

The story of young Claire O'Brien who won a scholarship to study at the University of Dublin.

Saturday, Aug. 7

8:30 Wacky World

A new programme which shows things that you can hardly believe.

9:00 Perspective

9:30 Varieties

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — Carolina Skeletons

Starring: Loui Cassett, Bruce Dern, Melissa Chaxington

In 1934 a white man pays the sheriff of his county a big sum of money to protect his son from a murder he committed. The judge in return kills a 14-year-old black boy.

Sunday, Aug. 8

8:30 Step By Step

Dana works as a restaurant manager with her two other sisters as waitresses.

9:10 The Trials Of Life

10:00 News In English

10:20 French Series — Le Gerfaut

Monday, Aug. 9

8:30 Golden Girls

Dorothy decides to open her family album and shows her friends that she is so proud of her family's history.

9:10 Thirtysomething

Mr. Right

While Melissa and Ellen fail in their bid to find friends through a dating agency, Melissa finds a friend in her house painter.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Mystery Movie — Play Back

Starring: Peter Falk and Oscar Werner

Electronics and images are the tools in tonight's murder story recorded on a video cassette.

Tuesday, Aug. 10

8:30 People Next Door

A new comedy series. The laughs flow in this appealing animated/live-action sitcom about an off-centre cartoonist, Walter Kellogg, a widower with two children. After a

whirl-wind romance he decides to get married.

9:00 Faces And Places

9:30 Wayne Dobson and new magic tricks with his friend Bingo the rabbit.

10:00 News In English

10:20 James Cagney, Top Of The World

The biography of Actor James Cagney who was born in 1899 and became a celebrity and a great actor since he arrived at Hollywood in 1930.

Wednesday, Aug. 11

8:30 Night Court

Walk Away Rene

In this episode Paul the court's police officer falls in love with Rene and spends all his money on her.

9:10 Special Programme

9:30 A Kind Of Magic

10:00 News In English

10:20 Mini-Series — Family Pictures

Starring: Angelica Huston and Sam Neill

The story of Nina, a deaf girl, who lived a very harsh life with her husband, who divorced her.



## Protein P53 and its mysteries

By Jean Chabrier

**This natural protein, whose code name is P53, blocks the proliferation of cells. A failure in its function is responsible for 50 per cent of cancers. It is being intensively studied by cancerologists involved in fundamental research and gives great hopes for both early diagnosis and for therapy.**

PARIS — In 1979, P. May, (from the cancer research unit at the French National Scientific Research Centre (CNRS)) was working on means of "immortalising" cell cultures. This could be achieved by placing a virus, SV 40, in the presence of normal cells. The proliferation of the infected cells then became unlimited. On observing these cell cultures, P. May and his team noted the presence of an unknown molecule, which they registered under the name of P. for protein, and 53, which is its molecular weight. It was to prove terrifically important.

Indeed, it is a characteristic of malignant proliferation to engender "immortal" genetic stock and several teams worked on revealing the presence of P53 in tumours. They were successful in this research and, in 1983, it was thought that the gene containing the instructions for producing P53 was a cancer gene or "oncogene".

Since their discovery in 1981, these oncogenes have been a vast and fascinating subject. In a normal state, they are involved in differentiating cell stock (one is used for producing red blood corpuscles, another for bone, another for a hormone, etc.).

but if mutation or alteration occur for various reasons (radiation, carcinogenic substances, etc.) they favour transformation into cancer.

In 1986, a Canadian topped the theory. P53 well and truly appeared in experimental cancer in the mouse, but, rather than increasing, it gradually disappeared with the development of the tumour. This led to the following conclusions. Normally, P53 behaves as an "anti-oncogene". It becomes an oncogene if there is mutation and then gives up the fight when it can no longer cope with the strength of the malignant process. It is thus able to have two radically opposed rôles, unlike the three other known anti-oncogenes.

### The keeper of the genome

Proof accumulated with Vogelstein's demonstration as the culminating point, in 1990. He showed that inserting P53 into cancer cells (from which P53 had disappeared) blocked the anar-

chical proliferation. This conjures up the dream of gene therapy, but, unfortunately, in the present state of research, it only works in vitro.

Another interesting fact is that the P53 gene can be suppressed in the mouse and, when it reproduces, the baby mice appear to be normal but they all develop tumours and none of them lives longer than a few months.

A recent international conference brought together more than 200 participants to assess the situation concerning this very curious molecule which does not belong to any known group of proteins and whose structure has not yet been elucidated even if the amino acids making it up, are known. In addition to the known facts, that is to say its anti-proliferation rôle and the part it plays in cell differentiation, several hypotheses have been studied.

For the British scientist, D. Lane, P53 is the "keeper of the genome", a kind of policeman regulating the mechanism of cell reproduc-

tion. Various experiments have demonstrated that, in the case of attack, the level of P53 rapidly increases, fixes onto a precise region of the DNA and thus blocks the cell cycle, preventing the replication of the DNA and thus the transmission of the "error" to the daughter-cells. After a few hours, the level of P53 falls and the normal cycle takes over again.

For Öztürk, from Lyons, this function of being a "keeper" is close to that of the control of ageing. As the cells grow older, they accumulate more and more errors in the form of DNA lesions. P53 intervenes by blocking the division of these cells.

Researchers at the Léon Bérard Centre, in Lyons, consider that, at last, they have a molecule able to detect food and substances which really are carcinogenic, (by measuring the amount of P53 in normal cell cultures made to undergo the effects of products such as tobacco, aflatoxin and radiation), or, on the contrary, to measure



Protein P53 is a curious molecule, the importance of which puzzles scientists

its therapeutic action. It could also be a means of early and polyvalent diagnosis.

A lot of work still remains to be done to explore this mysterious molecule and, as

everyone knows, even in an area of research which fascinates the scientific community, it is highly risky to fix precise dates. However, it has to be said that, at present, P53 is

formally to blame in 25 per cent of breast cancer, 75 per cent of colo-rectal cancer and in 100 per cent of small-cell lung cancer — L'Actualité En France.

## A good night's sleep is just a dream for millions worldwide

By Cynthia Johnson  
Reuter

LONDON — A good night's sleep is an impossible dream for millions of people worldwide.

Despite the throngs of weary sufferers, the economic and health costs of sleep disorders are not fully recognised and most go undiagnosed and untreated, medical specialists say.

"Many people don't realise that sleep disorders have a serious impact on themselves and others," said Colin Shapiro, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Toronto.

"You have a lot of people who are unfit to drive due to excessive sleepiness, for example, resulting in road accidents."

Prof. Shapiro is editor of The ABC Of Sleep Dis-

orders, a British medical journal publications book due out later this year. He and other specialists say doctors' lack of knowledge about sleep problems is often as much a handicap to their resolution as that of the sufferer.

"Medical education in sleep disorders is minimal, even in North America where there has been much more interest in them in the last 10 to 15 years," said Gregory Stores, reader in clinical psychiatry and sleep disorder researcher at England's Oxford University.

"There is clear evidence that this interest is confined to a limited number of centres and medical and other professional education, such as nursing or psychology, has lagged far behind."

An attempt is currently being made to correct that

but there is a long way to go. That's very strange in view of the fact that sleep disorders are so common throughout the population and also extremely troublesome.

Sleeping disorders cover a wide range of ailments from the more common — like snoring and insomnia — to sleep terrors, sleepwalking and sudden infant death syndrome.

Researchers point out that even the relatively rare sleep disorders such as narcolepsy — a condition marked by sudden attacks of sleep — are more common than multiple sclerosis or Parkinson's disease. Yet the public generally knows more about the effects of those illnesses.

A report by the U.S. National Commission on Sleep Disorders Research, Wake Up America, said it was time to recognise the

staggering impact of sleep disturbances on the health and welfare of society, an impact that rivalled smoking.

In recognition of such concerns President Bill Clinton signed into law a bill creating a sleep institute in the United States.

The economic effects of sleep-related problems are difficult to quantify but are generally agreed to be substantial.

One study placed the annual cost in the United States alone at \$16 billion. This included such things as loss of productivity, time off work and the institutional care of the elderly who were unable to remain at home because of sleep-related disruptive behaviour.

The personal costs can be equally devastating. Several studies have found that insomnia — which

affects between a quarter and a third of the population at some point each year and between 10-12 per cent of people chronically — is as powerful a predictor of early death as obesity.

Severe snoring — notably obstructive sleep apnoea, which involves repeated blockage of the upper airway — also carries a higher risk of death, especially from cardiovascular disease.

Other effects of sleep-related health problems range from reduced daytime performance, to damaged social relationships, psychiatric illness and road and work acci-

dents. In some cases the reasons for these effects are not fully understood, largely because the role of sleep is not clearly understood either.

"No one knows for certain why insomnia, for example, is linked to early death," Prof. Shapiro said. "One explanation stems from the theory that sleep is a restorative time for the body. If that is the case, then a person who isn't getting the proper level of restoration may well have a shorter lifespan or suffer psychiatric illnesses. It's a chronic and cumulative thing."

Medical professionals agree that great strides have been made in the treatments available for all sleep disorders, although many are still not offered to patients.

In the case of insomnia, for example, doctors are often still too quick to prescribe sleeping pills, again due to insufficient training in sleep medicine.

"Prescribing sleeping pills is often ineffective and in fact may make a bad situation worse, so it's a pity that all the other possible treatments are not better known," said Mr. Stores.

Depending on the cause of

insomnia, other options include psychological or drug treatment for depression or anxiety, changes in the sleeping environment or routines before bed.

"There is a whole list of things that may be extremely relevant in the individual case," Mr. Stores said.

Mr. Stores and others recommend that if someone believes their doctor is not dealing satisfactorily with their sleep problem they should ask for a referral to a specialist or a sleep clinic. Lists of sleep clinics are often provided by local or national sleep associations.

## Sleep experts wake up to health impact of snoring

By Cynthia Johnson  
Reuter

LONDON — Car accidents, heart attacks and suicide are some of the more extreme consequences of a severe and often undiagnosed form of snoring.

Obstructive sleep apnoea is snoring with a difference, one which can seriously impair a sufferer's quality of life and lead to death.

Often it is the partner of the Apnoea sufferer — driven to distraction by unrelenting nightlong snoring and the snorer's chronic fatigue — who prods him or her to seek medical help.

"When I first went to a doctor my wife was told to find a new husband if she wanted to avoid the problem," said Rex Sills, an Apnoea sufferer who works on the helpline of the British Snoring and Sleep Apnoea Association.

"Other partners have been told to move into a different house. Fortunately these attitudes are changing as doctors

become more knowledgeable about Apnoea."

Sleep Apnoea is marked by intermittent partial or complete constriction of the upper airway at the back of the neck as it is sucked closed when the sufferer breathes during sleep.

The blockages — which can last more than a minute — continue until the sufferer is roused, often gasping and snorting, by the struggle to breathe against the blockage.

The arousals are usually so brief the individual is unaware of them. But as they may occur hundreds of times each night, researchers believe they account for the daytime sleepiness and impaired daytime performance produced by the illness.

The condition — which Apnoea helpline workers say sometimes prompts sufferers to threaten suicide — is often equally distressing to partners. This is true both during the day, because of the snorer's chronic fatigue and often related personality changes, and at night.

"Even before we learned it was Apnoea I knew there was something seriously wrong. It was like listening to someone intermittently drowning all night," said Kate of her partner.

"The volume of the snoring was such there was no place to go to escape it. Sometimes he would vomit in bed — which I now know was also a result of the air blockages. I couldn't sleep and was constantly anxious about what this was doing to him."

The daytime sleepiness of Apnoea sufferers may be serious enough to make it impossible for them to work or even carry on a conversation. Other symptoms are personality changes, reduced libido and nocturnal choking.

Studies have shown that severe obstructive sleep Apnoea sufferers are between two and seven times more likely to be involved in car accidents than the general population.

The condition has also been linked to a greater risk of high blood pressure, Angina, stroke and heart attack.

Obesity is believed to be an important factor, because fat in the neck squashes the upper airway, but Apnoea also occurs in thin people and children.

Estimates of prevalence vary widely but studies suggest the condition, which is found more frequently in men, is much more common than previously believed.

"Most people discovering that they may have the disease are unaware it exists or can be treated," said Sills.

"They just assume their life will always be like this, with constant drowsiness and feeling remote from people."

Treatment must start with a trip to a sleep clinic for overnight monitoring of sleep patterns and arousals. If

sleep Apnoea is diagnosed the first advice may include losing weight, decreased alcohol consumption — particularly before bed — and stopping smoking. Surgery is an option in some cases.

Increasingly Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) is the standard remedy. It consists of nightly use of a nasal mask fitted to a machine that forces oxygen through upper airways thus preventing airway obstruction.

The results can be remarkable. CPAP can produce a "dramatic improvement in a wide variety of symptoms," says Colin Shapiro, professor of psychiatry at the University of Toronto.

"It's not only the sleepiness that improves. I've had patients who've had impotence as part of their sleep Apnoea and seen improvement with CPAP. There are also people who appear to present with dementia, which disappears," said Prof. Shapiro, editor of The ABC of Sleep Disorders, a book due out this year.

Mr. Sills notes that sufferers must often begin CPAP treatment before they can take other action, such as losing weight.

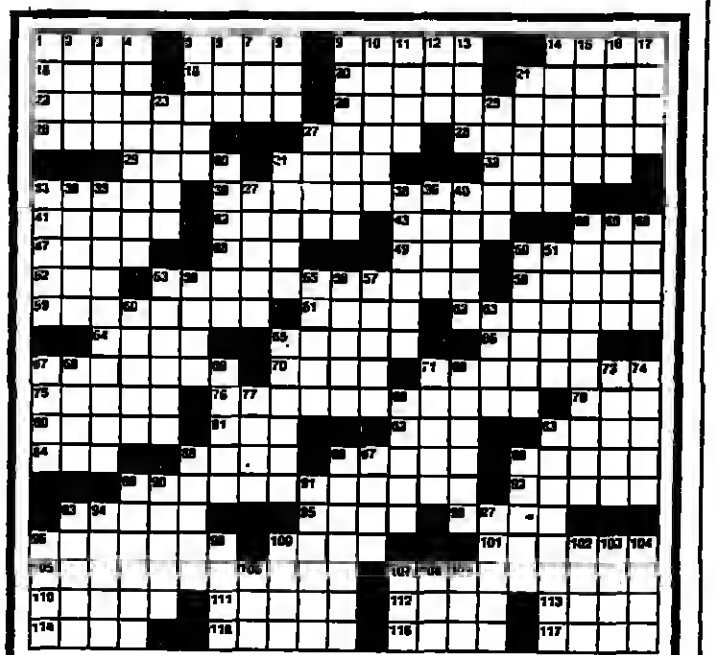
"One must bear in mind that it is very difficult for sleep Apnoea sufferers to lose weight because they have a lowered metabolic rate, which makes it even more difficult to shift calories. It's a slippery slope," he said.

"CPAP helps them to remodel their lives. They have a lot more energy during the day, they get more exercise and their metabolic rate rises because they are having proper recuperative sleep. They can escape the twilight world they are living in."

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

RAGS TO RICHES  
By Grace C. Plakston

- ACROSS
- 1 Pointe address
  - 2 Muddy waters
  - 3 Ocean pair
  - 4 Western school letters
  - 5 Organ stop
  - 6 "While the son..."
  - 7 Laid move
  - 8 Schoolteacher/stateswoman
  - 9 Consequence/philosopher
  - 10 "The..."
  - 11 Meager
  - 12 In another way
  - 13 Experienced
  - 14 "Take — it comes"
  - 15 "I'm..."
  - 16 Pays up, in poker
  - 17 Part of a book
  - 18 "Rent..."
  - 19 (Reynolds film)
  - 20 Across Nazimova
  - 21 Love poem
  - 22 "Open..."
  - 23 Cropper (fish)
  - 24 Lincoln
  - 25 Miss Plooy's word
  - 26 Form or tune
  - 27 Star
  - 28 Spectator
  - 29 "Among wolves"
  - 30 (Herodotus)
  - 31 Demonstrates
  - 32 Short dog, for short
  - 33 BBA, e.g.
  - 34 Shack
  - 35 Across Jena
  - 36 Boleyn and Meurs
  - 37 Depend on
  - 38 Chair of hills
  - 39 Truck
  - 40 "Land..."
  - 41 Legal actions
  - 42 Comic Johnson
  - 43 Stamp
  - 44 "The..."
  - 45 "Of — Sing"
  - 46 "The..."
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  - 100 "The..."



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Aging bump-and-grind stripper must manage to go out and grin and bear it.
2. Baseball player planned switch to cricket, had to wait, was unable to make the team.
3. Look not behind but fondly to the future, as you may, or you'll become stuck in yesterday.
4. Fancy French pastry appears prattier than it tastes.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. HDQAAJL HYLJH DQB QE TBJE AJJN KN.  
HCAAJL YKAB CEXJL CEXCJ BLJHCLJ.

—By Earl Ireland

2. FIRMLYMPI FEHYAQRUC YQAQUF NRC  
FER INQEQWN INR NQECF YCQP PRAAQU  
CXFR IQ YAMPXHW BEL.

—By Rita Salvato

3. NIXSOX NBXSOX NIXSV NAXS NBXSO NIX  
NIXOY NAVY JIHY NXIS JOBXANCE  
ECSJOX.

—By Ed Haddleton

4. MI FIRISTO IX KUSHEKAD TEPFIRIST MSUO  
IX KUKREKAD?

—By Eugene T. Malaska

- Diagramless 10 x 10, By Harold B. Counts
- ACROSS
- 1 Farm implements
  - 2 Zodiac sign
  - 3 Consumes
  - 4 Go-between
  - 5 Wireless sets
  - 6 Tric
  - 7 Tric
  - 8 Some used cars
  - 9 Shear fabric
  - 10 Poker term
  - 11 Religious image
  - 12 Former actor
  - 13 Peter
  - 14 Fountain or Rose
  - 15 Italian cathedral
  - 16 Fish-eating birds
  - 17 Hollow stem
  - 18 Used a kitchen
  - 19 Golf mounds
  - 20 Came down like rain
  - 21 Certain Slav
  - 22 Fox
  - 23 Chalcidomy
  - 24 Sfr
  - 25 Lacking
  - 26 Erase
  - 27 Plotted
  - 28 Pointed and
  - 29 Heavy weights
  - 30 Corrupt
  - 31 Heavy weights
  - 32 White-footed rodent
  - 33 Mild cat
  - 34 Sewer
  - 35 Let m... escape
  - 36 "I was saying"
  - 37 Speedy
  - 38 Linda Levin TV
  - 39 Fishing gadgets
  - 40 Dowlall part
  - 41 Heavy railroad worker
  - 42 Hot cheese dish
  - 43 Precocious
  - 44 Leguminous plant
  - 45 Tokes to court
  - 46 "I got — in Kalamazoo"
  - 47 Holman's
  - 48 Japanese War
  - 49 Gangster
  - 50 Solitary
  - 51 "In taste"
  - 52 "I don't amount to a..."
  - 53 "I don't amount to a..."
  - 54 Take sides
  - 55 Short golf
  - 56 "I got — in Kalamazoo"
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- DOWN
- 1 Dynamic
  - 2 Mite of moves
  - 3 Fish-eating birds
  - 4 Fill to the brim
  - 5 New kid on the block
  - 6 US emblem
  - 7 Shuck
  - 8 Scenic plant
  - 9 Fly high
  - 10 Streamlets
  - 11 Cuddle
  - 12 Hawaiian dance
  - 13 East carefully
  - 14 Italian cathedral
  - 15 Hollow stem
  - 16 Used a kitchen
  - 17 Golf mounds
  - 18 Came down like rain
  - 19 Certain Slav
  - 20 Fox
  - 21 Chalcidomy
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## Researchers find hint of genetic link to schizophrenia

By Paul Raeburn  
The Associated Press

BAR HARBOR, Maine — Two research groups say they have found evidence of inherited genetic defects that might cause schizophrenia.

If a genetic link is found, it would be a medical landmark, the first time that a psychiatric disorder has been conclusively traced to a genetic mutation.

Tip-toeing around the errors of earlier groups claims, they cautioned that they had not conclusively linked schizophrenia to inherited defects.

"I look forward to what the scientific community is going to do with it," said Ann Pulver of Johns Hopkins University, leader of one of the

research teams.

"It would be enormously valuable," said Dr. Elliot Gershon, chief of clinical genetics at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md.

Dr. Pulver and her colleagues have found evidence of a potential link between schizophrenia and a gene on Chromosome 22, one of the 23 chromosome pairs that carry human genes.

The research was discussed by Stylianos Antonarakis of Hopkins, one of her collaborators, at a meeting of geneticists at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor.

Dr. Antonarakis said the Chromosome 22 defect may be responsible for 20 per cent to 30 per cent of all cases of schizophrenia.

## SOLUTIONS ARROWWORDS

- (1) KNOW
- (2) WHISPER
- (3) RACK





His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday presents Al Hussein I Medal to Amman Mayor Mahmoud Al Abbadi (Petra photo)

## King confers medal on Amman mayor, stresses need to preserve cultural image

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received at the Royal Court Amman Mayor Mahmoud Al Abbadi and conferred upon him Al Hussein I Medal, which is usually granted to mayors of Amman.

King Hussein congratulated Dr. Abbadi for being appointed Amman mayor and asked him to convey his greetings to Greater Amman Municipality (GAM) staff.

The King stressed the need to preserve the cultural image of Amman and called for preparing plans to develop various services in all parts of the capital.

He also stressed the need to keep GAM's doors open for citizens to solve their problems

without any bureaucracies. "It is of great importance for the capital to have museums, theatre houses, cultural and intellectual seasons and everything that has to do with serving the human beings which are our dearest wealth," King Hussein said at meeting.

Dr. Abbadi, who was appointed mayor July 17, expressed pride in the Royal confidence invested in him and affirmed that he and his colleagues at GAM will not spare any effort to rise up to the level of King Hussein's confidence in them.

The municipality, he said, was about to embark on procedures

to review the municipality's programmes and plans with the objectives of improving its performance.

The meeting was attended by Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki.

The tradition of granting Amman mayor with the medal was initiated by the late King Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, the grandfather of King Hussein, during his reign.

Dr. Abbadi, who has served as health minister and president of the Jordan Medical Association, succeeded Mohammad Bashir, who resigned in preparation for the upcoming parliamentary elections.

## U.S. Senate panel ties conditions to 1994 assistance to Jordan

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In a move that could complicate the dispensation of U.S. aid to Jordan, a U.S. Senate sub-committee has conditioned 1994 allocations, but the move has to clear several hurdles before it becomes effective, informed sources said Wednesday.

The conditions, related to sanctions against Iraq, came in the form of an amendment to a bill proposed by the Clinton administration allocating \$19 million in aid to Jordan for fiscal year 1994 — \$10 million in economic aid and \$9 million in military aid.

The bill now has an attachment that stipulates that all American aid to Jordan will be subject to the Kingdom's adherence to the international sanctions against Iraq. No such restrictions exist on a similar bill approved by the House of Representatives.

Under the provisions of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee version of the bill, the State Department is not only asked to submit six-monthly reports to Congress certifying that Jordan is enforcing the sanctions, but also to detail the Kingdom's efforts to block goods entering Iraq and the nature of smuggling efforts blocked by Jordanian authorities, including the names of those detained for violations.

"If the secretary of state determines that Jordan not substantially complied with the U.N. Security Council resolutions with respect to Iraq, the president shall withhold all assistance for Jordan until Jordan is in compliance with such resolutions," says the proposed attachment.

The authorization bill and the attachment now go before the full Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then the full Senate before being signed by the president into law.

"A lot could happen by now and the final stage," said an informed Jordanian source. "The administration could work to remove the teeth from the amendment by diluting it."

"Both the Senate bill and the House of Representatives bill have to be identical in their final forms," said the source. "It is very possible that the Senate will yield to the House on this issue."

The U.S. embassy in Amman said it had no comment.

According to another source, the amendment was included after the legislative affairs section of the State Department recommended it. It was formally proposed by Republican Senator Hank Brown of Colorado, who serves in the Senate sub-committee.

"The attachment of conditions cannot be described as a sign of hostility towards Jordan," said the source. "There are some new faces in the legislative department, and it cannot be said that they know much about the Middle East in general," added the source.

The Jordanian source agreed that "hostility towards" Jordan was no longer a visible issue in the U.S. Congress, particularly

after the recent visit of His Majesty the King, but the source refused to confirm or deny whether the attachment was the result of ignorance of Middle Eastern issues.

"That is an internal American affair, and I do not have any comment on it," said the source.

In a July 22 letter to Senator Patrick Leahy (Democrat, Vermont), chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Secretary of State Warren Christopher defended Jordan's record of enforcing the sanctions against Iraq.

"We have no evidence of any illicit shipments of items with significant military applications," Mr. Christopher said in the letter.

The secretary of state also said that Jordanian officials recently told the administration that any violations of the sanctions would not be tolerated by the Kingdom.

Mr. Christopher also indicated that the State Department takes "these assurances seriously."

He warned that any failure to release aid for Jordan previously frozen by Congress (for fiscal year 1992) would send the wrong signals and would not serve American interests. The letter came in the context of Clinton administration moves to release up to \$50 million in aid to Jordan before September. The release of up to \$30 million is awaiting the expiry of a formal notification period.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Kuwait collects 11,000 weapons from civilians

KUWAIT (R) — Surface-to-air-missiles, anti-aircraft guns and hand grenades were among the 11,000 weapons Kuwait security forces recovered from civilians in the past 12 months, Al Watan daily reported on Wednesday. Colonel Mobamad Al Hamad, acting commander of a special Interior Ministry arms-gathering force, was quoted as saying the recovered arms included about 22 SAM-6 surface-to-air missiles, a number of anti-aircraft guns, 2,000 Kalashnikov assault rifles and more than 3,000 hand grenades. He said the weapons had been recovered since the force was formed 12 months ago. He indicated some of the weapons had been seized in raids on arms caches while others had been given up by civilians voluntarily under a government amnesty.

### Djibouti refugees dying in Ethiopia

NAIROBI (AFP) — At least 10 Djibouti Afar refugees in Ethiopia are dying each day because of lack of food, water and shelter, Ethiopian radio quoting relief workers in the country's Afar region said Wednesday. The refugees were living in "direful conditions," the radio said. Ethiopia's relief and rehabilitation commission has appealed for emergency aid for the 15,000 refugees who fled fighting between Djibouti government troops and Afar rebels who launched the insurrection 18 months ago.

### Algerian journalist killed in ambush

ALGIERS (R) — Gunmen, in the second attack on a journalist in four days, killed an Algerian television reporter outside a relative's home on the outskirts of Algiers, one of his colleagues said Wednesday. Rabah Zenati, 35, was shot dead in the Breaki suburb of the city Tuesday, the second journalist to be killed in months of violence in Algeria blamed on Islamic fundamentalist militants. The official news agency APS, quoting television officials, said Mr. Zenati, father of three, had worked with state television, the country's only channel, since 1981.

### Serbs take control of key mountain

SARAJEVO (AFP) — Bosnian Serb forces seized control Wednesday of the strategic Mount Igman overlooking Sarajevo, a senior U.N. peacekeeping officer and the Bosnian Serb commander said here. The U.N. officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Serbian forces seized a key road running along the crest of Mount Igman from Bosnian army defenders early Wednesday. He said control of the road meant the Serbs "effectively control the mountain even if pockets of resistance remain." The head of the Bosnian Serb Army, General Ratko Mladic, also told journalists at Sarajevo airport that his men had taken control of Mount Igman and nearby Mount Bjelasica. (See related story on page 8)

### Russia denies planning accord with Iraq

MOSCOW (AFP) — The Russian Foreign Ministry Wednesday denied Iraqi reports indicating that the two countries were preparing an economic and trade cooperation agreement. Interfax news agency reported. The official Iraqi News Agency on Tuesday quoted a visiting Soviet trade official as saying it was time for Moscow and Iraq to sign an economic cooperation pact. The Russian delegation, headed by Oleg Davydov, a deputy trade minister, met Tuesday with Iraqi Commerce Minister Mohammad Mebdi Saleh and Deputy Industry Minister Adnan Abdul Majid. INA quoted Mr. Davydov as saying: "It is time to draw up a document on economic, commercial and technical cooperation between the two countries (to) give a legal foundation" to their economic relations. But Igor Melekhov, deputy head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department, said Wednesday that the delegation had not held talks on such cooperation during their visit.

## Christopher

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Assad's spokesman said the president and Mr. Christopher were trying to push Arab-Israeli negotiations "towards the stated goal of achieving just and comprehensive peace."

On its way into Zahle Mr. Christopher's convoy passed a large roadside portrait on the town outskirts of the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, leader of Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution.

At the Lebanese border with Syria, Mr. Christopher and his team switched to armoured vehicles with sirens blaring including two trucks with 50 calibre machineguns mounted on their roofs.

Lebanese army sharpshooters were posted on all rooftops surrounding the meeting site.

Government sources said Lebanese leaders planned to ask Mr. Christopher to exert U.S. pressure on Israel to honour the ceasefire.

The leaders also will seek U.S. support for Lebanon's decision to deploy its army with U.N. peacekeeping troops in South Lebanon in a bid to head off another Israeli onslaught.

During the three-hour talks, state-run Damascus Radio broadcast a commentary, saying, "the United States is requested to tell Israel frankly that its policies contradict peace and will only lead to further destruction and instability."

Syria won praise from the United States and Israel after reports that Damascus had persuaded Iran to urge its pro-Iranian guerrillas in South Lebanon to stop firing rockets into northern Israel.

On his arrival in Israel Tuesday, Mr. Christopher said he expected "no breakthroughs, no dramatic developments" but hoped to establish a steady process toward peace in the region. The peace negotiations, started in Madrid in October 1991, stalled after the 10th round in Washington in June.

In Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday: "We on our part are ready to make compromises, take calculated risks to advance the course of peace."

Damascus Radio commented, "Christopher's mission should capitalise on Israel's accepting the basis of a just and comprehensive settlement to the Middle East, first and foremost of which is Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands and recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people."

Israel has suggested giving Palestinians self-rule in the occupied Gaza Strip and more authority to run their own affairs in specific fields for residents of the West Bank.

Palestinians have balked at an interim settlement of self-rule in the occupied territories, before obtaining assurances they could achieve independent statehood at a later stage.

Negotiations got bogged down in a dispute over Palestinian demands for immediate discussions over the future of Jerusalem. Israel prefers to leave negotiations over the city it considers its "capital" until later. Palestinians want the eastern half of the city as capital of their own state.

## Election

(Continued from page 1)

sour among them, is based on the belief that they should be influential in Parliament in order to succeed in making reforms through democratic means.

Dr. Farhan said his group has not decided on any option yet. But a Brotherhood deputy said that it was more likely the Islamic movement would participate in the next elections if the expected changes in the law would not effect them much.

"According to our calculations, the one-person-one-vote formula which would maintain the current division of districts (20), would secure us 15 Parliament seats out of the 17 districts, with the remaining three districts going to tribal representatives," a Brotherhood deputy said.

The movement has been careful in pointing out that regardless of changes to the Election Law, they would still have significant weight in the next Parliament, but mainly through their alliances with other non-Islamic candidates.

Under the current bloc-voting system, voters have as many votes as the number of parliamentary seats assigned for their constituencies. Redrawing the voting precincts, which do not ensure equal parliamentary representation for equal number of voters, is believed to be the most complex process that the government would have had to tackle had it decided to address it in the reported new legislation.

## Somalia's boy soldiers idolise Rambo, Aided

By Serge Arnold  
Agence France Presse

MOGADISHU — Gun-toting film idol Rambo and fugitive warlord General Mohammad Farah Aided are the twin heroes of the Somali capital's boy soldiers, who dream of exacting revenge on the U.N. troops fighting to establish peace in the war-ravaged country.

Children wearing headbands and chanting the slogans of General Aided's supporters throng the streets when Gen. Aided's clan-based Somali National Alliance (SNA) calls for demonstrations against the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM).

The whites are "infidels" and the Americans and the United Nations want to "colonise and Christianise" Somalia, the children say.

The U.N. special envoy to Somalia, retired U.S. Admiral Jonathan Howe, has a special nickname — "animal Howe."

Ali Farah Osman, aged 13, boasts that he "killed a Pakistani" June 5, when 24 Pakistani U.N. troops were shot dead by supporters of Gen. Aided.

The killings prompted retaliatory raids by UNOSOM, which repeatedly hammered Aided's strongholds in Mogadishu with air and ground forces, leaving scores of Somalis dead.

The United Nations has put a price of \$25,000 on the warlord's head. Gen. Aided in turn offered \$1 million for Admiral Howe's assassination, according to Time magazine.

Ali and his friend Sadir Abdi Risa, aged 14, say they stole their AK-47 assault rifles from an arms dump belonging to forces loyal to ousted Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre, during the civil war which reduced much of Mogadishu to rubble.

Somalia, without a government since 1991, has been devastated by factional fighting that triggered a famine in which some 350,000 people have died.

The boy soldiers say they are ready to use their guns against "anyone who, like the Americans and the U.N., attacks the Somali people."

More than 18,000 U.N. troops from 26 countries are in Somalia. "Previously we thought the soldiers had come to restore peace," says Ali, "but now we know that they want to colonise our country."

"We do not accept their wicked actions," he adds. The boy soldiers insist that the majority of children in southern Mogadishu, Gen. Aided's traditional fiefdom, share their views.

Many of the gangs survive by stealing. Their rivalries mirror the clan warfare of their elders that has torn the country apart.

Ali and Sadir frequently fight the children in a neighbouring district or rival clan for control of the "American dump" near the airport, where they steal food to be sold later at the Bakara market.

"We have stones, catapults and knives," says Sadir. "Our parents don't know what we are up to. We bring them money and they don't ask any questions."

Said, aged 23, says his younger brother Hassan, aged 12, "wants to become like Aided," and maintains that the majority of children in Mogadishu want to play the part of "Aided's little Rambo."

Said, who works as an interpreter for foreign journalists, says Hassan goes to Koranic school, after which he and his friends "do shooting practice."

The children "copy their elders in everything," Said says.

Often the children are seen smoking and chewing kat, a drug widely used by Somalis.

Many of their elder brothers are today living off the proceeds of robberies carried out in the past with the aid of their AK-47s.

"Their brothers stole vehicles, for example, which they hire out to foreigners now — even to the U.N. — while they themselves dream of stealing a UNOSOM land cruiser and making a fortune," Said says.

## WANTED FOR RENT

The American Embassy is seeking one to four bedroom unfurnished apartments and houses for its staff. The size of each type of apartment is specified below in net square meters.

The term net square meters means the sum of the square meters measured from wall to wall of the living room, dining room, bedrooms, kitchen and closets. Storage and utility rooms and stairs are excluded from the calculation.

Number of bedrooms	Net Square meters
One	83 to 92
Two	119 to 132
Three	174 to 191
Four	202 to 224

The most desirable apartments will have modern kitchens and bathrooms.

The Embassy prefers apartments in the Abdoun, Sweifeh, Um Utheina, Al Rabieh, Um Summaq, or Jandaweele areas or in the areas from Fourth to Eight Circle but will consider other near-by areas.

Offers must include the price asked; the number of bedrooms in the apartment, the net square meters, the address of the apartment or house, and the name, address and telephone number of the owner. Floor plans are desirable but not required.

The Embassy will deal only with owners. Offers should be sent to:

General Services Officer  
P.O. Box 354  
Amman-Jordan

### L'olivier

French Cuisine

La Terrasse

L'Olivier Garden  
Fish Market

**Indoors**  
Lunch 1.00 Till 3.30 P. M.  
Dinner 7.30 Till 11.30 P. M.

**1st Floor**  
4 P. M. Till Midnight  
Cocktails & Snacks

**Outdoors**  
Dinner 7.30 Till 11.30  
French & Fish Market

L'olivier is located in abdoun, Amman's most prestigious area near the orthodox club, vallet parking is available for your extra comfort.

For Reservation 819564

## The National Music Conservatory / Noor Al Hussein Foundation

Announces accepting applications to enroll in the undergraduate program of the British Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music (LRSM).

The program offers the following fields:

- \* Composition
- \* Music for the School Curriculum
- \* Teaching (Instrumental or Voice)
- \* Performance
- \* Conducting
- \* Piano Accompaniment

The program comprises two stages:

- The first stage requires at least one academic year and prepares for the Advanced Certificate which is a pre-requisite for entering the licentiate program.
- The second stage lasts for at least two academic years and prepares for the LRSM.

Admission Requirements:

- \* The General Secondary Certificate or its equivalent.
- \* The grade 8 Practical Examination Certificate conferred by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM).
- \* Applicants who do not hold the Grade 8 Certificate must pass a performance audition before a jury and meet the set standards.
- \* The program is taught by a faculty who enjoys high-quality education and long teaching experience in music.

The LRSM is equivalent in standard to LRAM or ARCM conferred in the United Kingdom by the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music respectively and is entitled to receive equal recognition. Holders of the LRSM could enjoy pursuing higher education in music abroad.

**Deadline for filing applications: August 12, 1993.**  
**Audition date: starting August 14, 1993.**  
**Classes begin: September 4, 1993.**

For further information please call:  
The National Music Conservatory / Noor Al Hussein Foundation  
Jabel Amman, Atiyat Building, Behind the Embassy of Kuwait  
Tel.: 687620 - Fax.: 687621  
Amman - Jordan



# High world prices hit Dubai gold trade

**DUBAI (R)** — A jump in world prices for gold has hit sales in the Gulf where traders say imports have slumped and demand for bullion and jewellery is declining.

Traders said Wednesday business was slow in Dubai, the world's fifth most important centre for gold trade and one of the busiest markets for bullion and jewellery imports and exports.

Some estimated imports had dropped between 10 and 15 per cent in the last two months, with buying demand down about 50 per cent. Imports of gold bullion, mostly from Switzerland and Britain, stood at about 40 tonnes compared to 47 tonnes in the same period last year.

Lucrative reexports to the subcontinent were also down.

"There is a lot of uncertainty

and anxiety in the local market because of the fluctuations and increase in world prices...the general attitude is wait and see," one trader said.

"The reexport market is not doing very well either, but the slow business is only a temporary matter once the world prices stabilise," he added.

Another trader at a Dubai bank said the only demand they had was from speculators and investors who wanted to sell gold international at \$410 an ounce.

"These are people who bought when the price was at \$380 and now want to sell. But we are not getting lots of buyers," he said.

"The non-speculators want to wait and see how the trend will be, whether prices will go up or down," he added.

The loosening of currencies in the European Community's exchange rate grid spurred gold to its highest level since September 1990 Monday and dealers in Europe expect a continuing bull market in coming weeks.

Investor buying drove gold up to \$409 an ounce, bringing its gains to 25 per cent in the last month. It opened in London Wednesday at \$402.

The European dealers said investment funds could see \$420 to \$440 as a target in the next few weeks but this would mean breaking through heavy market resistance up to \$420.

The bullion price might dip below \$400 before moving higher but little appears capable of denting its relentless bull run for the

time being, they said.

Dubai's gold imports had risen by 72 per cent in 1992, an all time record for the emirate, to 284 tonnes from 165 tonnes in 1991, according to World Gold Council figures.

Traders say the growth rate in Gulf gold trade was between 10 to 15 per cent largely due to good legislation, low labour and insurance costs and customs tax.

The hardest hit in Dubai are jewellery shops, where owners say business is at its lowest.

"We get people coming in and looking but not much business. We are still selling a ring here or a necklace there, but in general people want to wait," one said.

The dealers said demand for jewellery was down between 25 and 30 per cent.

# Central banks still eyeing old ERM limits

**LONDON (R)** — Central banks, particularly those in northern Europe, are wistfully eyeing the old narrow exchange rate mechanism (ERM) limits, currency analysts said Wednesday.

It is clear that Europe's political leaders were unhappy with the weekend decision effectively to float the system. Verbal and financial interventions since have indicated they are highly uncomfortable with currency weakness.

"The French, Belgians and the Danes all want to get their currencies so they are not far away from the old bands, and if possible in the old bands," said Nat-west's Robert Thomas.

Analysts said the recent attacks on the weaker ERM currencies reflected the dire economic need for interest rates to come down across Europe. "This was, and is, an interest rate crisis, not a currency crisis," said one.

"I thought the reason you agree to float is the immediate economic need to get interest rates down," said Mr. Thomas, who is head of research at Nat-west Capital Markets. "Pushing your currency up with intervention and not cutting rates makes it doubtful that you satisfy that economic need."

The Belgian central bank has so far been alone in visibly intervening, moving in Tuesday at levels between 21.38 and 21.40 per mark. But there is strong speculation that the Danish and Spanish central banks have also been quietly supporting their currencies.

The Belgian franc is now back within its old 2.25 per cent band, rising Wednesday morning to 20.85/93 per mark which compares with its old floor of 21.0950.

There has also been verbal intervention plenty with French Finance Minister Edmond Alphandery saying the unchanged ERM central rate of 3.35 francs per mark was its real value.

The weekend shake-up saw ERM limits stretched to 15 per cent with the exception of the guildler and the mark.

Foreign exchange traders said while the Belgian authorities are anxious the franc be seen as a quasi-Deutschmark, it is possible many of the other central banks will soon follow suit and indulge in covert intra-marginal intervention.

The French franc, although well off its low, is still under the old 3.4305 per mark limit at 3.4550 and the Danish crown is well down at 3.9685 per mark versus the old floor of 3.9016.

The franc's new floor is way down at 3.8948 per mark and the crown's at 4.4298 per mark.

Analysts are puzzled that governments are so worried about the currency levels in the short-term.

"A gradual cutting of rates while you have the exchange rate flexibility seems to me to be the most sensible thing," said one Paris analyst. "Rate cuts can even prompt a capital flow across the exchanges because of the boost to the economy and actually push up a currency."

Analysts said after the current wave of short-covering has exhausted itself and operators have taken currency profits, ERM currencies will tend to weaken as monetary policy is eased.

"You will see renewed weakness in most of the ERM currencies and the French franc in particular," said Nikki Nelson-Smith, treasury economist at Midland Global Markets.

"The central banks are anxious to send a signal to the markets that 15 per cent is too far to fall so they are going to be careful when they cut rates... The French are at the extreme of that argument and will cut rates the most cautiously," he pointed out.

Other economists said European countries may cut interest rates too slowly and too cautiously despite a new-found currency freedom as they are still intellectually wedded to shadowing the German mark closely.

Since all currencies except the German mark and Dutch guildler were granted new 15 per cent fluctuation bands, European central banks have shown little inclination to cut rates.

At first it appeared they were simply being cautious after the currency turmoil, but many economists now fear they won't cut interest rates sharply for fear it will dent their currency.

This approach contrasts with Britain's strategy after being forced out of the ERM currency grid last September, when it cut interest rates sharply and swiftly.

"A country like France should cut interest rates immediately by about two per cent to revive its economy but the lingering political commitment of the French to the 'franc fort' policy means they are likely to be far too cautious on interest rate cuts," said Nick Stamenkovic, economist at DKB International.

France is in a particularly tricky position because Prime Minister Edouard Balladur has said he would resign if the franc was devalued, so he may now feel compelled to talk the franc up.

"I think the ERM problem is in danger of repeating itself first as tragedy and then as farce unless these countries act decisively to revive their economies," said Nick Parsons, treasury advisor at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

The danger is simple.

The newly liberated currencies are still trying to claw back currency gains to take them within their old bands, cheered on by European leaders who want their Euro-visions to survive intact and the old ERM to be reassembled as quickly as possible.

So the whole point of wide 15 per cent bands may not after all be to allow countries to cut interest rates sharply, but simply as a quick fix to stop the speculation.

European leaders are already talking in terms of a move back to old 2-1/4 per cent bands as early as next year, a move almost certain to preclude sharp interest rate cuts before then.

Many European central banks have been intervening to cap extremely modest falls in their currencies in recent days.

Denmark actually raised its one-month interest rates to a punishing 25 per cent earlier this week to protect the krona.

Economists said a tardy line on interest rate reductions would exacerbate serious economic problems, and actually delay economic convergence necessary for the ERM to work.

Part of the problem may simply be learning new ways.

After nearly 14 years of fixed or semi-fixed exchange rates,

European central banks are simply not used to managing a floating exchange rate, economists said.

banks are simply not used to managing a floating exchange rate, economists said.

"Many European central banks are stuck in a 14-year mind-set where they think any interest rate cut will damage a currency's value. In fact cuts which improve the economic fundamentals tend to eventually benefit currencies," economist Parsons said.

The Bank of Spain, for example, cut interest rates Tuesday and saw the peseta rally sharply against the mark.

# Clinton goes public to buck up nervous Democrats on budget bill

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Clinton's television appeal to "meet our great responsibilities" set the tone for a furious final push to embed congressional Democrats who may be wavering on his economic plan.

Mr. Clinton, heading to Capitol Hill Wednesday to personally lobby House Democrats, Tuesday night spoke little of the months of deal-making and compromise that produced a bill claiming \$496 billion in deficit reduction.

Instead, he told voters Congress' decision was simple.

"Now there are only two choices. Our plan or no plan," he said.

"Our nation is in economic danger," Mr. Clinton said in a TV address to the nation. "We cannot afford not to act. I need your help. I need for you, to tell the people's representatives to get on with the people's business."

"I don't like taxes any more than you do," Mr. Clinton said. But he said his plan was fair, would place the burden of higher taxes on the wealthy and help create at least eight million jobs.

The average family would pay less than a dime (10 cents) a day in new taxes — all of it from a 4.3 cent-a-gallon increase in the federal gas tax, Mr. Clinton said.

To ensure the money goes to deficit reduction, Mr. Clinton said he would sign an executive order Wednesday specifying just that. He also was to sign an order requiring the president and Congress to set specific non-binding targets to control spending in federal entitlement programmes.

Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas, in his party's official response to the speech, also asked people to call the Capitol.

"The president's plan calls for more taxes, more spending and higher taxes," Mr. Dole said. If it is defeated, Republicans would work with the Democrats on "a better plan, a plan that truly moves America in the right direction."

While their speeches were to

the nation, their targets were the handful of Democratic senators whose wavering has left the fate of the package uncertain.

The original Senate version passed only after Vice President Al Gore cast a vote to break a 49-49 tie.

Six Democrats — Richard Shelby of Alabama, Sam Nunn of Georgia, Dennis DeConcini of Arizona, Richard Bryan of Nevada, Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey and Bennett Johnston of Louisiana — voted against the original Senate version of the plan.

Last weekend, senator David Boren, Democrat- Oklahoma, announced he was switching his vote to no. There was and will be no Republican support.

An ABC news poll released three hours after Mr. Clinton's speech said 53 per cent found it convincing and 36 per cent unconvincing. But only 36 per cent of the 831 adults surveyed saw the speech. And 45 per cent said they were opposed to the plan, compared with 39 per cent a week ago.

A CNN-USA Today-Gallup telephone poll of 672 adults Tuesday night said 33 per cent thought Congress should approve the budget, while 44 per cent disapproved and 23 per cent had no opinion. Sixty-eight per cent thought middle-income Americans would pay the most taxes under Mr. Clinton's plan.

Both polls had margins of error of four percentage points.

As of late Tuesday, only broad details of the 1,000-page-plus bill were made public.

Democrats claim it would reduce the deficit by \$496 billion, compared with what the red ink would be with no action. That still would leave about \$1 trillion added to the national debt during the period.

Of the \$496 billion, about \$241 billion would be new taxes. On the spending side, it promises to restrain future expenditures, including a freeze on federal agencies and cuts in Medicare payments to hospitals and doctors.

# China pledges to smash currency black market

**SHANGHAI (R)** — China's economic supremo Zhu Rongji said Beijing is determined to defend the present value of the Chinese yuan against the U.S. dollar and he vowed to smash the currency black market, official newspaper reported Wednesday.

Mr. Zhu, who has made currency stability a cornerstone of his efforts to rein in inflation, said the exchange rate of around 8.8 yuan to the dollar was reasonable.

"An important task in the second half of year is to continue to adopt measures of adjustment and control to keep the rate stable at the current level, which is reasonable," Mr. Zhu was quoted as telling a meeting of the state administration of exchange control in Beijing Monday.

"Zhu Rongji stressed that the government has the determination, confidence and the ability to fulfil this task in order to prevent big rises and big falls on the market," national newspapers reported.

The government would try to boost exports this year to earn more foreign currency and help hold the exchange rate. It would also crack down on capital flight, Mr. Zhu said.

After Vice Premier Zhu took over as the governor of the People's Bank of China, the central bank, in July, he ordered massive intervention in Shanghai's currency swap market to strengthen the yuan.

Brokers said the central bank pumped several hundred million dollars into the market to batter speculators and lift the yuan out of a trough of almost 11 to the dollar.

At the same time, the government started tightening administrative controls over the Shanghai swap market to make it harder for Chinese enterprises to buy dollars and encourage companies with hard currency reserves to dump them.

Shanghai has the largest of China's swap markets where businesses trade hard currency at rates that more accurately reflect supply and demand.

The official state-set rate used by foreign travellers to China and

some Chinese enterprises remains stable at around 5.7 to the dollar.

Mr. Zhu was quoted as saying the present swap rate reflected a balance between supply and demand. However, Chinese economists say that heavy-handed intervention in the currency market has created a false value.

Western bankers in Shanghai say Mr. Zhu's strategy appears to be to hold the rate — at any cost to the central treasury — hoping that other measures to cool economic growth and rein in inflation will relieve pressure on the yuan later this year.

Mr. Zhu blamed the weakness of the yuan partly on speculators and he vowed to crack down on black marketeers who crowd around Shanghai's tourist hotels.

He stressed the need to "strengthen administration and supervision of the foreign exchange market, adjust and control foreign exchange usage, strictly prohibit trading outside the market and smash the black market," the newspaper said.

Crude intervention to hold the rate at around 8.5 on the swap markets earlier this year forced trading underground, an outcome Mr. Zhu is clearly determined to prevent this time.

Currency flight has exacerbated the yuan's troubles, with vast sums of money flooding into Hong Kong stocks and property this year to escape inflation running at almost 20 per cent in China's major cities.

Many Chinese export corporations are illegally sitting on piles of foreign exchange, unwilling to part with it at current rates and expecting further yuan devaluation.

Mr. Zhu said Beijing would strengthen measures to take back such reserves.

He said the government would "resolutely stop the practice of holding foreign exchange outside the country in violation of regulations and stop capital outflow and all kinds of foreign exchange drain."

"The export task for this year is hard," Mr. Zhu was quoted as saying. "We must try our best to expand exports to earn foreign exchange."

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1993  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Handle your credit and other obligations to the best of your ability today as we enjoy four positive aspects of the Pisces Moon. Higher ups are more aware of your present circumstances than you may think.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) A day to get into duties facing you whether on the road, at offices or places of business, in selling or writing, concerning furnishings, getting in supplies.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You now can go to the barber shop or beauty salon of your choice and improve your appearance as well as arrange future entertainment or recreation.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You have many conditions that you can improve at your residence and this is the perfect day to do so and especially with the approval of your family.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You have the right day now to get at whatever desk tasks await your attention as well as important shopping and errands to be done.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Those big ideas you have about money matters can now be reduced to workable success and made to work so you can have a greater abundance to spare.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) You can be as personal as you

wish today about making a plan of action that can bring you more personal success and happiness in the coming days.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) You can devise and work out a plan of action whereby you have every item in its right place in privately gain objectives most vital to your needs.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) This is the day for you to be very selective in the friends and acquaintances with whom you have association in aiding you to gain desires.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Put your best effort into making vocational outside interests trend to your advantage for you have a good chance to enhance your good name.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) There are a number of interesting changes you can make in your mode of operation that can add to your growth and development right now so be alert to them.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Now you have a chance to get into practical matters and make them operate to your advantage so forget imaginative ideas and get into the gritty.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) A considerable amount of attention can be paid to partners by discussions which tackle the various problems facing you and then so solve them now.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1993  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** By changing your attitude at this time to a more friendly one you will find that you are able to overcome objections to your projections that have been somewhat in dispute. Think before you speak.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You have some early change of plans where your work load today is concerned and don't do this hastily or you can get in deeper water than before.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Some anticipated pleasure needs revision but you get involved in some recreation that is going to cause you considerable amount of expense.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You find conditions at home in a pretty upsetting state but absent yourself and let tensions work themselves out and all is well in the evening.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Take time out to carefully consider your communications to others for their reaction can be negative unless you are extra polite.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Financial and other practical interests are not what they appear to be during the day and study with an eagle eye to prevent making some mistake.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Whatever you try to do of a personal nature can seem to have

all kinds of strange conditions connected with them so keep very objective.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Take some time out to get rid of nagging issues that require you to handle them with tact and diplomacy and avoid getting in discussions with kind.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Don't try to get those personal ties upon whom you usually rely to lend you a hand with intimate tasks for they are too busy with their own worries.

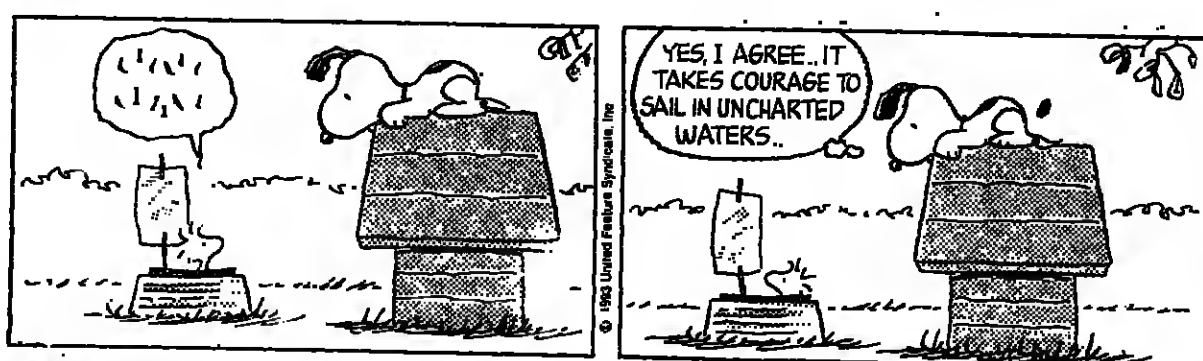
**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Do whatever your public expressions are in a good citizenship fashion for otherwise today you could lose some of your built up reputation.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Think about what you can do to turn some matter at a distance that is full of problems to your advantage by a conscientious course of action.

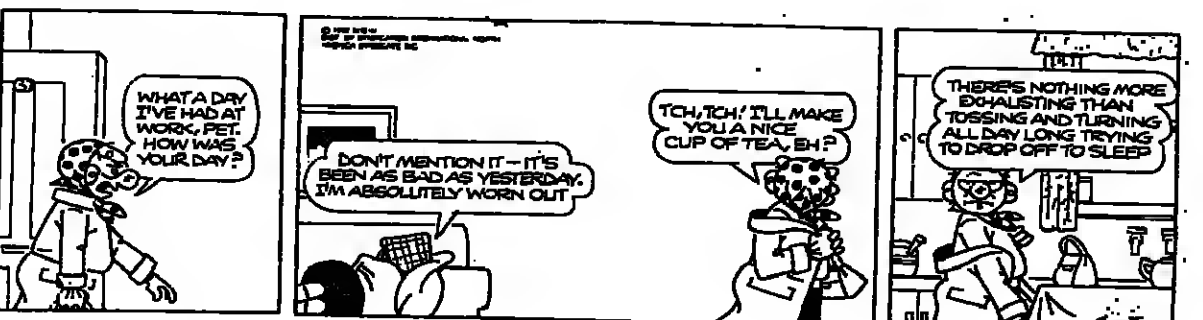
**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Consider the various obligations you have and the best means by which you can organise your time and efforts better to settle them wisely.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You would be wise to refrain from continuing those discussions with an associate until a more favourable time and concentrate on your own career.

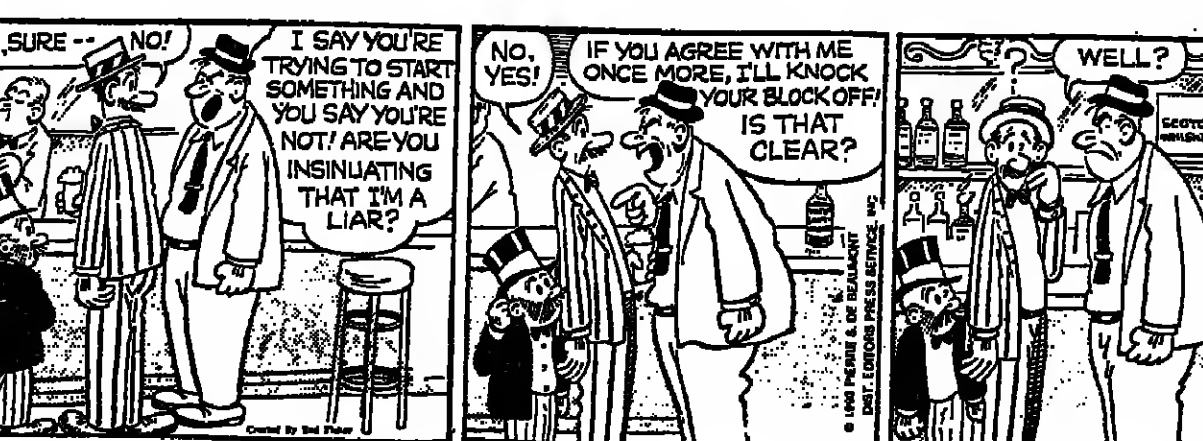
## Peanuts



Andy Capp

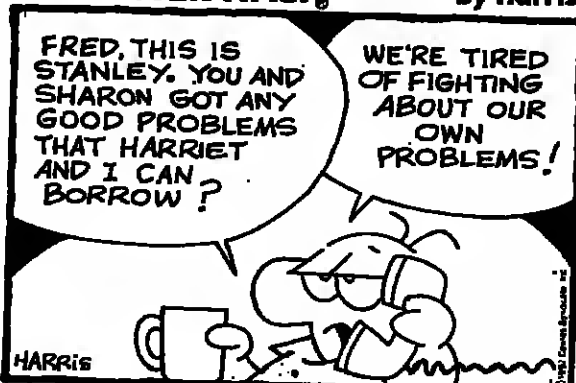


Mutt'n'Jeff



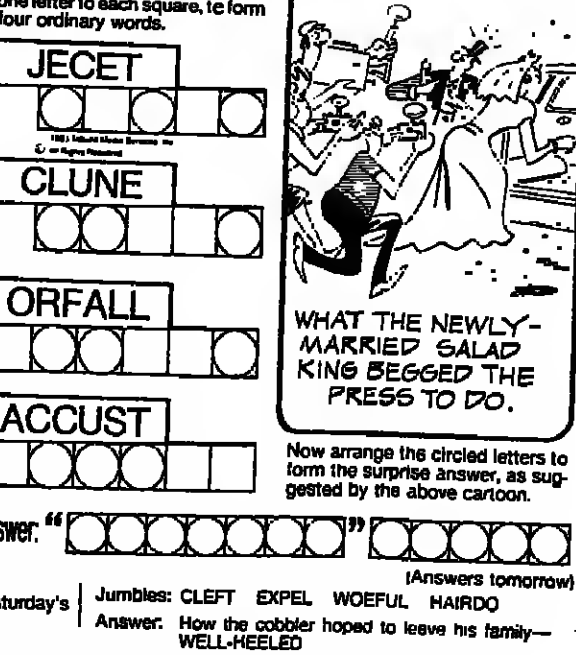
## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

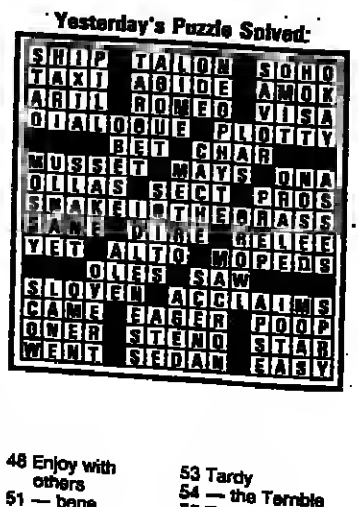
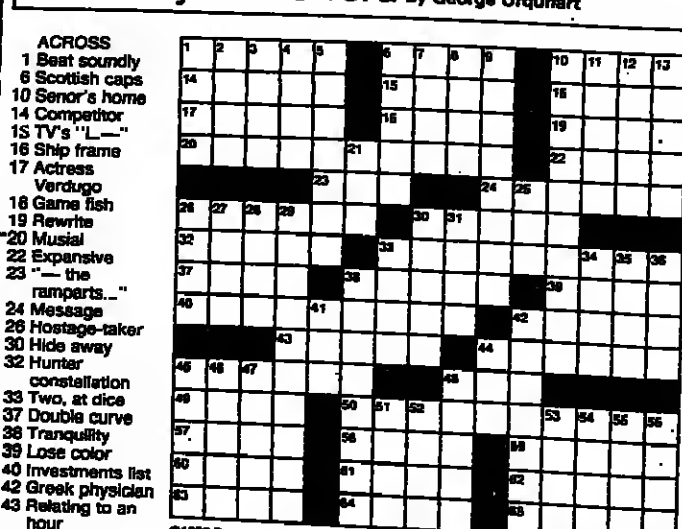


## JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold



## THE Daily Crossword by George Urquhart





## Bare shelves, high prices as Georgia dumps rouble

**TBILISI (R)** — With traders demanding sky-high prices for the paltry goods on shop shelves, Georgia's first day outside the rouble zone was a miserable one for Arusa Sakaia.

The 67-year-old pensioner walked into gastronomy (food-store) number two in central Tbilisi Tuesday to see what she could buy with her monthly pension of 6,000 coupons — the former Soviet republic's new interim currency.

The choice was stark: Less than one kilogramme of butter at 7,000 coupons a kilogramme, about one kilogramme of candy at 5,000 coupons or two small packages of imported Italian macaroni, 3,200 coupons each.

Instead she bought nothing, breaking down in tears while talking to a reporter.

"Listen, things were better than this in 1941. I haven't eaten meat in two years. All I can afford is this," she said, holding up a loaf of round white bread. "I could break my teeth on this, it's as a rock."

Georgia is one of several former Soviet republics which rushed to abandon the rouble currency after Russia's abrupt decision last month to withdraw all pre-1993 banknotes from circulation in its territory.

From Tuesday, use of the rouble became a criminal offense.

The police will perform raids and close stores dealing in currencies other than coupons, and the money will be confiscated," said Nugzar Plipla, vice-president of the Georgian central bank.

But it was doubtful whether underground trade in other currencies could actually be curtailed given the general state of unruledness in the country.

State-run stores in the capital

were trading solely in the tiny coloured coupons, but the selection of goods available had come far poorer.

Most imported goods had vanished, and those that were left were marked at prices way out of reach of the average Georgian.

Russia's withdrawal of banknotes, announced July 21, threw Georgia into chaos. Within hours, most businesses had shut down and panicky crowds packed into semi-official exchange points to dump the old roubles.

The country's fledgling upper class jammed the city airport, hoping to get to Moscow to exchange their old notes before it was too late.

Within 24 hours Georgian authorities decided to dump the rouble, making the interim coupon the only legal tender until a permanent currency, the lari, can be introduced later this year.

Roubles are still sought after. One rouble fetches up to 40 coupons on the black market, compared to the official rate of one to one.

Some businesses were still accepting roubles Tuesday despite the ban. One salesman was pricing petrol at 700 roubles (70 cents) a litre or 7,000 coupons. At such an exchange rate, buyers are almost forced to use roubles.

"Look, I bring this petrol in from Russia," said the salesman, who said he was not aware of the new law. "What are they going to do with these slips of paper (coupons) there? I have to pay for this stuff in roubles."

In communist times, Georgia's standard of living was among the highest in the Soviet Union. Now it is among the poorest, with many as three-quarters of the population living in poverty.

## Fortune: AT and T tops world's most profitable service companies

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A huge earnings increase put American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) on top of the world's 500 largest service companies, Fortune magazine said.

That was an impressive feat, as the magazine reported the 500 companies overall saw profits decline in 1992.

The big pinch squeezed the world's 500 largest service companies last year even more tightly than in 1991, Fortune said.

"Total profits fell by 17 per cent, and of all the companies — 10 more than in the previous year — reported losses."

Fortune's global service 500 compilation, released Tuesday, ranks the 500 largest service companies in eight different industry lists by revenue or assets.

It tallies the top 100 in each of two areas: Diversified service and commercial banking. Fortune calculates the top 50 in six other industries: Diversified finance, savings banks, life insurance, retail, transportation and utilities.

The United States dominated the combined rankings with 135 of the 500 companies, Fortune said in its Aug. 23 issue.

Japan came in second with 128, followed by Germany, 45, Britain, 42, and France with 33.

AT&T led the profits list with 1992 earnings of \$3.8 billion, a gain of more than 600 per cent from the year before. The company supplied 1991's biggest money maker, British Telecom.

The second most profitable service company was Telefonos de Mexico with earnings of \$2.6 billion, followed by Bank of China, which reported profits of \$2.2 billion, the magazine said.

"For the second year in a row the biggest money loser was Deutsche Bundesbahn, a German railroad company," Fortune said.

Deutsche Bundesbahn lost \$5.3 billion in 1992. The second biggest money loser was Sears, Roebuck and Co. with a loss of \$3.9 billion. The third biggest money loser was Italy's trieste, an engineering and construction company, with a loss of \$1.7 billion.

As a whole, the 500 companies earned \$104 billion in 1992, down from \$126 billion the year before, Fortune said.

The world's largest diversified service company in 1992 was Japan's Itochu, a trading company, with sales of \$156.3 billion. In banking, the world's largest

was Japan's DAI-ICHI Kaogyo Bank, with assets of \$493.4 billion.

France's AXA was biggest in the diversified financial area with assets of \$180.0 billion. Britain's Abbey National led the savings bank category with assets of \$108.7 billion.

According to Fortune, Japan's Nippon Life headed the life insurance list with assets of \$280.9 billion.

In retailing, Sears was world's biggest with sales of \$59.1 billion. Fortune considered the company's financial services revenue in compiling the list, allowing Sears to outrank Wal-Mart Stores Inc., whose \$55.5 billion in revenue outstripped Sears' \$32 billion in retailing revenue, and also Kmart Corp., which had nearly \$38 billion in revenue.

East Japan Railway was No. 1 in transportation with revenue of \$18.8 billion. Electricite de France headed utilities with assets of \$117.7 billion.

U.S. companies held the top 5 spots in Fortune's ranking of the 500 services companies' biggest employees. The largest was Wal-Mart with 25,000 employees in 1992.

Following Wal-Mart were, beginning with No. 2, Sears, Kmart, AT&T and United Parcel Service of America Inc.

Fortune's global service 500 rankings are a hybrid of its more well-known list of the nation's top 500 industrial companies. The global service 500 was first compiled in 1991, using year-end 1990 figures. The Service rankings are akin to a list Fortune released last month of the world's top 500 industrial companies.

## Financial Markets

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U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Mar 3 '93	Tokyo Close Mar 3 '93
Sterling Pound	1.5807	1.4990
Deutsche Mark	1.7875	1.7110
Swiss Franc	1.5010	1.5050
French Franc	5.9352	5.9266**
Japanese Yen	104.40	104.55
European Currency Unit	1.1175	1.1217**

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**LONDON EXCHANGE RATES**

**LONDON (R)** — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs		
1.2890/95	Canadian dollar	
1.7065/75	Deutschmarks	
1.9250/60	Dutch guilders	
1.5075/85	Swiss francs	
36.60/74	Belgian francs	
5.8900/00	French francs	
159.06/0	Italian lire	
104.90/00	Japanese yen	
7.9560/76	Swedish crowns	
7.3480/68	Norwegian crowns	
6.7480/69	Danish crowns	
One sterling		\$1.5020/30
One ounce of gold		\$400.20/400.70

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## Another Tokyo minister defects before LDP ends 38-year rule

TOKYO (Agencies) — Agriculture Minister Masami Tanabu quit the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Wednesday, one day before it was set to relinquish its 38-year hold on power to a coalition determined to cleanse Japan's politics.

"I am tired of the party's empty promises on political reform," Mr. Tanabu told a news conference. He also quit as agriculture minister in the outgoing cabinet of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Mr. Miyazawa's government lost a parliamentary no-confidence vote, forcing a snap election on June 18 which cost the LDP its majority in the powerful lower house for the first time since it came to power in 1955.

Hit by scandals and mass defections, the LDP will end its rule Thursday when parliament convenes to elect an anti-graft populist, Morihiro Hosokawa, as prime minister.

Mr. Hosokawa's fragile eight-party majority coalition cleared a hurdle Tuesday when a star Socialist campaigner, former Party Chairman Takaki Doi, accepted an offer to take up the key post of lower house speaker.

The parliamentary vote for prime minister is expected to take place about 0600 GMT Thursday. Mr. Hosokawa was expected to win a majority of about 260 votes in the 511-seat chamber.

Even if the LDP successfully won over a few independents, it would have only about 230 votes. It lost its lower house majority in

the July 18 general election.

If no one gets a majority in the first round, voting goes on in a second-round contest between the two front-runners. The candidates with the most votes wins even without a majority.

Mr. Hosokawa was chosen to head the coalition on the grounds that he was the first conservative politician to challenge the LDP's monopoly on power. His Japan New Party (JNP), formed last year, won 36 seats in the July 18 polls. These were the first in which it fielded candidates for the lower house.

Mr. Hosokawa said he would announce his cabinet Friday. The heads of the other parties in the coalition were all expected to receive posts.

Tsutomu Hata, who led LDP defectors into forming the Japan Renewal Party, was widely tipped to be appointed deputy prime minister and to serve concurrently as either finance or foreign minister.

Mr. Doi will be the first woman speaker of Japan's 104-year-old parliament and the first to be chosen from a party that is not the biggest in the chamber.

The LDP, now led by reformist Yoshiaki Kono and set to spend time in the unfamiliar role of opposition party, has criticised the choice, saying it breaks with parliamentary precedent.

The coalition brings together parties from a broad spectrum, ranging from the leftist Socialists to conservative LDP defectors, and has vowed to carry out dras-

tic political reform in an extraordinary session of parliament to be convened in mid-September.

Mr. Hosokawa's meteoric 15-month rise from former provincial governor to prime minister undermined the troubles within the once indomitable LDP.

The party's fate was sealed by the scandal that brought down LDP kingmaker Shin Kanemaru who quit as party vice president in August 1992 after admitting he took illegal funds from a trucking firm. He then snubbed prosecutors and got away with only a token fine.

After severe public criticism, he resigned his parliamentary seat last October. In March prosecutors arrested him on tax evasion charges. A first hearing on the charges was held on July 22 at which Kanemaru pleaded not guilty.

The next hearing is scheduled in September.

Also Wednesday, Kyodo News Agency said Sony Corp. Chairman Akio Morita — already touted as a possible trade and industry minister — has been asked by Japan's incoming coalition to be foreign minister.

The electronics giant that Mr. Morita helped found after World War II refused to comment on the report, which quoted what it termed political sources. Last week, reports said Mr. Morita had been asked to be international trade and industry minister.

Mr. Morita, 72, is a friend of Mr. Hosokawa who is set to be elected prime minister when par-

liament resumes Thursday, and who, according to reports, has asked high-profile Japanese to accept key posts.

Mr. Morita is probably one of Japan's best known corporate bosses. After slamming Western work practices during the 1980s, he has recently started advocating that Japanese companies place as much emphasis on keeping employees happy as firms in Western countries are reputed to do.

In a separate development, the government admitted Wednesday that the imperial Japanese army had forced or tricked tens of thousands of Asian and European women to serve as sex slaves for Japanese soldiers during World War II.

Chief government spokesman Yutaka Kono did not mention the issue of compensating the women now, although he said the government would study how best to apologise.

"There are many examples in which the women were gathered contrary to their will, by means of coercion and cajoling," Mr. Kono said in a prepared statement.

"The government offers its heartfelt sentiments of reflection and apology to all the women for their many sufferings and the injuries to the mind and body that cannot be healed from their experience as 'comfort women,'" he said.

Mr. Kono's statement followed a recent Japanese government investigation in South Korea.



A Croat soldier walks past dead comrades as they are lined up for identification in central Bosnia (AFP photo)

## Serbs advance on Sarajevo peak

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian Serb forces have wrested control of a key position on strategic Mount Igman dominating Sarajevo, forcing a pullback of Muslim-led forces and defying a NATO threat to strike if they tighten their siege.

Reporting the Serb advance, Bosnian and U.N. military sources said Wednesday some Muslim-led units had withdrawn from the peak, whose fall would close the Serb siege ring around Sarajevo and sever the Muslim supply route.

At the stalled peace talks in Geneva, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said his troops were ready to hand over neighbouring Mount Bjelasnica, which they captured from the Muslims this week, to U.N. peacekeepers.

"The U.N. has already taken a bit of it and has its flag flying there," Mr. Karadzic said.

Senior Bosnian army sources in Sarajevo said their commander, General Rasim Delic, was waiting to hear from the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) if this handover was genuine before agreeing to resume ceasefire talks in Sarajevo.

A Serb withdrawal from Bjelasnica was also the key to resumption of the Geneva peace negotiations, Bosnia's Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic said. "I am going to go (to the talks) if the Serbs withdraw," he said.

Speaking on Sarajevo Radio, Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic said if the attacks on Igman did not stop, the Bosnian government might suspend the Geneva negotiations.

Croat army leaders in central Bosnia launched a propaganda offensive Tuesday, denying that the key town of Gorzki Vakuf had fallen to Muslim forces.

In an obvious attempt to calm soldiers and civilians panicked by recent Muslim gains in the area, Croat Colonel Tibor Blaskic told a news conference: "We

haven't lost a single square inch of Gorzki Vakuf."

Col. Blaskic, commander of the HVO (Croatian Defence Council) third operational zone in central Bosnia, added: "No major objectives or facilities have fallen into the hands of Muslims there."

The commander of U.N. peacekeeping troops in Gorzki Vakuf, British Major Graham Binns, said Monday Muslim soldiers had taken effective control of the town despite scattered pockets of Croat resistance.

Maj. Binns described the HVO in the Gorzki Vakuf area as "an army in defeat" and told Reuters he could not locate a Croat commander in charge of local forces.

In Washington, armed with allied approval of his plan to use air power in Bosnia, President Bill Clinton had demanded "an end to the misery" in Sarajevo before another winter of "grave, grave difficulties" begins.

The Washington Post reported Wednesday that NATO has given its military planners the green light to draft hit lists that include Bosnian Serb military leaders in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

But North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) officials in Brussels firmly denied the report, stating that "no such instructions were given by the council during its meeting on Aug. 2."

NATO during that meeting warned it was planning air strikes against Serb positions if they maintained their siege of Sarajevo and other Muslim towns.

According to the article also published by the International Herald Tribune, NATO issued a directive to its military planners in Italy and Brussels ordering them "to draft options for 'stronger' measures, including air strikes against those responsible for Bosnian Serb and other attacks in Bosnia-Herzegovina," besieging Sarajevo and several other towns.

## Italian parliament votes its own demise

ROME (R) — The most scandal-tainted parliament in Italian history voted its own demise Wednesday, approving an electoral reform that should in a few months consign a discredited political system to oblivion.

"It's a remarkable achievement — nothing less than har-kiri," a jubilant official at Prime Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi's office said after the vote. "Parliament has just signed its own death warrant."

The final vote in the lower house was 257 in favour, 78 against, with 153 abstentions. On Tuesday night, the Senate, or upper house, had rushed approval of its part of the reform. This can now become law.

The change in rules, largely scrapping proportional representation, clears the way for a general election expected to be called early in 1994 under a new first-past-the-post majority system.

The electoral reform, enacting the will of the overwhelming majority of Italians who voted in an April referendum to scrap the old system, was Mr. Ciampi's top priority. He had given parliament until Friday to complete the approval.

With nearly 20 per cent of all members of parliament (MPs) under inquiry for serious crimes ranging from corruption to mafia links and murder, few of those who approved Wednesday's law expect to be re-elected when Italy next goes to the polls.

The next election will give Italians their first chance to punish politicians exposed over the last 18 months by magistrates probing a web of corruption that included all the main parties and the country's leading businesses.

The worst hit parties are the Christian Democrats and the Socialists, the two that have ruled Italy in coalition for most of the last 30 years.

MPs had been dragging their

feet over the reform for months, but were finally spurred into action after a wave of unexplained bomb attacks which have hit Italian cities since May.

The latest attacks came on July 27, killing five people and seriously damaging two Rome churches and a Milan museum. Afterwards, Mr. Ciampi and President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro blamed opponents of Italy's political renewal.

The neo-fascist Italian Social Movement (MSI), in danger of extinction under the new rules that handicap small parties, ended its filibustering tactics Tuesday night, withdrawing more than 100 amendments that threatened to derail the bill.

The reform is set to change the Italian political landscape dramatically, breaking the stranglehold the Christian Democrats have had on government since 1945.

One of the main beneficiaries is expected to be the Northern League, the raucous protest movement that has in recent months emerged as the dominant party in Italy's wealthy north.

The Christian Democrats are only expected to hang on to their traditional fiefdoms in the crime-ridden south of Italy.

The heirs of the former Communist Party are forecast to dominate the traditional "red" belt in the centre, thus producing a three-way national split.

Proportional representation was widely blamed for producing a long series of weak and short-lived governments and always keeping the same parties in power, blocking any political renewal. Italy has had 52 governments since World War II.

In the next elections, 75 per cent of the seats in the lower house and the Senate will be awarded under a British-style first-past-the-post rule. Proportional representation will determine the rest — to ensure minorities retain a voice.

## S. Africa cabinet debates escalation of violence

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — President F.W. de Klerk and his cabinet held a crisis session Wednesday, seeking an end to South Africa's escalating township warfare which has killed 124 blacks in four days.

Witnesses said townships east of Johannesburg resembled war zones overnight, with youths throwing petrol bombs and stones at police trying to enter through blazing barricades.

There were reports of random shooting early Wednesday but the situation was calmer, they said.

Police said they were having trouble getting to many sections of Katlehong, Tokoza and Tembisa, where fighting has raged since Friday.

"It is extremely difficult," a spokesman said.

The death toll Tuesday night rose to 124 as 17 more bodies were found, most of them doused with petrol and burned. The worst trouble was in Katlehong, where many people have been unable to leave their homes.

Mr. De Klerk said the cabinet meeting would focus on halting the carnage after one of the bloodiest weekends in three years

of apartheid reforms.

"I cannot go on like this... the East Rand must now come to order," he told a news conference Tuesday, referring to the area where the killing has been concentrated east of the commercial capital, Johannesburg.

He said the government was ready to send additional troops into townships.

The cabinet was expected to discuss a proposal by Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) for a multi-party peacekeeping force.

Mr. De Klerk said Tuesday he supported the idea but envisaged the force as an auxiliary one charged with tasks such as crowd control with the police in overall control.

The ANC and other black parties say the white-led police, former enforcers of apartheid, lack the credibility and trust needed to bring peace to black communities.

More than 600 people have been killed since July 2 in a wave of violence which followed the setting of April 27 as the date for the country's first all-race elections.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Seoul accuses North of being unreasonable

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea's national unification minister Wednesday accused North Korea of setting a new "unacceptable" condition for international inspections of its nuclear facilities. But Han Wan-Sang said North Korea's decision this week to allow three U.N. officials into the country for an "elementary" inspection is a positive sign that it would remain a party to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). "The North's claim that the light-water reactor issue was a precondition for it accepting (special) inspections is unacceptable," Mr. Han told a meeting of foreign reporters. Mr. Han was referring to a demand by the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency early this year to make a special inspection on two North Korean facilities suspected of being nuclear waste dumps. The Communist North reacted angrily by threatening to quit the NPT, designed to check the spread of nuclear weapons technology. It suspended the withdrawal decision in the first round of talks with the United States in June.

### Strike paralyses Kashmir

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Indian army troops were deployed in Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar Wednesday as protests against the killing of a Muslim family by security forces entered a fourth day. Soldiers were patrolling downtown Srinagar after angry residents defied a curfew and attempted to stage protest marches in three areas of the tense city, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. Indian paramilitary troops shot dead at least six people and wounded 30 as they tried to break up anti-Indian protests by up to 30,000 Kashmiri Muslims in Srinagar Tuesday. The news agency gave no further details of Wednesday's demonstrations, but it said the troubled Kashmir Valley was crippled by a strike for the fourth day following the killing of a 10-year-old boy and his parents by members of the paramilitary Border Security Force (BSF) at their Srinagar home Sunday.

### Hong Kong airport talks renewed

HONG KONG (AP) — Anglo-Chinese talks on Hong Kong's new airport resumed Wednesday and made "steady progress, albeit fairly slow," the British negotiator said. "We have edged forward again as we did last time," Anthony Galsworthy said. "We will certainly need further meetings but I am still confident that we are going in the right direction," he told reporters after the meeting. The \$21 billion project on Chek Lap Kok Island is possibly the world's largest civil engineering project now under way. It entails levelling the island, laying runways on ocean landfill, and building tunnels and bridges to link the terminal to central Hong Kong by road and rail. China, which regains sovereignty over Hong Kong in 1997, is unhappy with the financing offered by the colony's British rulers.

### Menchu condemns U.S. embargo on Cuba

HAVANA (R) — Nobel laureate and Indian rights campaigner Rigoberta Menchu of Guatemala has condemned a U.S. economic embargo against Cuba as unjust and said the Cuban people should be allowed to maintain the political system of their choice. "I think the (U.S.) blockade has no justification at all and it could even set a negative precedent for interfering in other countries in (Latin) America," Ms. Menchu told a news conference in Havana. On Monday night President Fidel Castro awarded the Order of Ana Betancourt, a Cuban civil decoration, to the 34-year-old Maya-Q'ichee Indian. The citation for the award praised her for her work in support of the rights of Latin America's indigenous Indian population, especially in Guatemala, for which she was awarded the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize.

### Thatcher speaks of treachery

LONDON (R) — Margaret Thatcher, speaking in a four-part television series to be shown later this year, accuses members of the ruling Conservative Party of treachery by forcing her resignation as prime minister, the producer of the series said. "She is emotional about the circumstances of her resignation," Hugh Scully told journalists. "Her description of the days leading up to it are absolutely gripping. She uses the word treachery, but I can't say about win." Lady Thatcher, who stepped down in November 1990, does not expect to be asked to return as premier, he said. "I think there's some part of her that would like to come back as prime minister I don't think she has any expectation of it," Mr. Scully said. "I did ask her if she'd like to return but got pretty short shrift." "Thatcher: The Downing Street Years" includes interviews with former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, former U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Lady Thatcher's successor, John Major.

### 22 killed in Indian train accident

NEW DELHI (AP) — A passenger train jumped the rails in eastern India, killing 22 people travelling on the roofs of three coaches, news reports said Wednesday. The Awadh-Assam Mail was speeding through Mauntra Station late Tuesday when its three coaches skidded off the tracks, broke loose from the train and crashed on the ground, United News of India reported. Fifteen people were injured, Press Trust of India said. The region is 740 kilometres (460 miles) southeast of New Delhi. All the victims were travelling on the roof of the three cars, United News of India quoting D.N. Singh, a local railway official.

## Leak threatens historic U.S. town

FESTUS, Missouri (R) — A leaking floodgate stymied efforts to stem floodwaters threatening an 18th-century Illinois town as the Mississippi River's destructive onslaught headed south after passing St. Louis.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, whose crews used a barge crane Tuesday to carve a notch in the top of a 400-foot (122-metre) section of the Fort Chartres levee, said the tactic to divert floodwaters and ease pressure on other levees appeared to

be successful.

But a leak late Tuesday in a floodgate along the levee north of historic Prairie Du Rocher forced officials to evacuate emergency workers sandbagging another section of the levee protecting the French colonial town.

"It appears the gate structure is leaking so we are taking pre-cautionary measures," said Lou Chiodini, a Corps of Engineers spokesman.

A helicopter lowered an inflatable dam in hopes of shoring up

the leaking floodgate, Mr. Chiodini said.

"If we are not successful at saving this levee, it may take out about 20,000 acres (8,093 hectares) — and the town," said Dan Reitz, a spokesman for the Randolph County Emergency Management Department.

Engineers had hoped the induced flooding would act as a buffer against fast-moving flows from levee breaks further to the north that threatened Prairie Du Rocher.

## Yeltsin disproves rumours of poor health

MOSCOW (Agencies) — President Boris Yeltsin flew Wednesday to the site of the largest tank battle in history, hoping to recapture the political battleground from his opponents.

Mr. Yeltsin also was fighting rumours of ill health as he traveled to the central Russian city of Orel for the 50th anniversary of the Soviet victory over the Nazis in the Battle of Kursk.

Both of Mr. Yeltsin's leading political rivals, Vice President Alexander Rutskoi and parliament Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov, have visited the battleground in recent days. Some 13,000 tanks and self-propelled guns clashed in the epic battle in July and August 1943, and the Soviet victory helped turn the tide of World War II.

Speaking to veterans and local officials Tuesday, Mr. Khasbulatov used patriotic rhetoric to denounce the sweeping social and economic changes that Mr. Yeltsin has brought to Russia.

"Few who took part in the battle back then could have imagined that the very notion of fidelity to the fatherland would someday be an object of mockery," Mr. Khasbulatov said.

Patriotism has also been a potent political weapon for Mr. Rutskoi, a retired general and hero of the Soviet war in Afghanistan. The rebellious vice president has repeatedly accused Mr.

Yeltsin's administration of weakening the army and the military-industrial complex.

Mr. Yeltsin sounded a confident note as he left Moscow for Orel, telling reporters that the process of drafting a new Russian constitution was "progressing at a good pace." Critics contend the draft constitution is becoming mired in debate in provincial legislatures across the country.

Mr. Yeltsin also assured reporters that "the state of my health is excellent," the ITAR-TASS News Agency reported.

Mr. Yeltsin and Prime Minister Victor Chernomyrdin called Tuesday for decisive action against "criminal" elements in the Caucasus dispute between North Ossetia and Ingushetia.

The warning came three days after the assassination of Viktor Polyanchko, head of the region's provisional state-of-emergency administration in the disputed region of Prigorodny.

The Russian head of the local garrison, General Anatoly Koretski, was also killed in the attack by unidentified gunman, as were several bodyguards.

The attack was a severe blow to Russian authority in the region. In a statement, Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Chernomyrdin called on the defence, interior and security ministers to "launch decisive operations to eliminate criminal groups and to seize all arms in circulation illegally in the area of

conflict."

They should "cut all arms delivery routes and prevent combatants from entering North Ossetia and Ingushetia," the statement said.

Moscow has struggled since last autumn to maintain order in the volatile northern Caucasus, where Ossets and Ingush are fighting over Prigorodny, once Ingush territory but transferred to North Ossetia by Stalin in 1944.

Some 10,000 Russian troops have already been deployed in the region.

The statement also called for all measures necessary to be taken "to ensure that the criminals responsible for the assassination of the head of the provisional administration in North Ossetia and Ingushetia, Victor Polyanchko, be found and brought to justice."

In a separate development, Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev said Tuesday Russia is ready to defend the Tajik border against armed Islamic extremists but will not let its soldiers die if the Tajik government and opposition refuse to open peace talks.

## Jailed mafia boss cooks own meals to avoid poisoning

PALERMO, Italy (R) — The mafia's reputed boss of bosses Salvatore "Totò" Riina, captured after 23 years on the run, cooks his own meals because the authorities fear he might be poisoned if given prison food, his lawyer said. Mr. Riina's counsel Marin Grillo said his client was being held in a windowless cell and was allowed no physical contact. "I've only been able to shake his hand once and that was soon after his arrest," the lawyer told Reuters in an interview. Before Mr. Riina was captured in Palermo on Jan. 15, he was twice sentenced in his absence to life imprisonment and is accused of ordering hundreds of murders.

## Scientist to sell human smells with sex appeal

COVENTRY, England (R) — A British scientist plans to recreate and market a range of human smells with sex appeal. British biochemist George Dodd said he had identified human sex pheromones — aromatic molecules produced by glands in the face, armpit and groin — which could be used as a special ingredient in perfumes. Dodd, director of the Institute of Olfactory Research at Warwick University in central England, said his research suggested there could be up to 50 sex pheromones that play a major part in the process of sexual attraction. He said he planned to make synthetic versions of the pheromones and sell them. "The pheromones can play a significant role in the attraction process or in a person's first encounter with a potential partner," he said. "Vision dominates and the sound of a voice plays a part, but smell comes into play too. Smell can be decisive in whether the project is abandoned. It can make the vital difference."

## Smoking banned in Los Angeles restaurants

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Smokers who might up in Los Angeles' 7,000 restaurants now face a fine of up to \$250, while restaurant owners, who turn a blind eye could go to jail. Under a new law which took effect Monday, Los Angeles became the largest U.S. city to completely ban smoking in restaurants. The law had originally been due to take effect July 26, but a group of restaurant owners backed by the tobacco industry presented a petition signed by 96,000 people calling for a referendum on the issue. City officials then ruled that many of the signatures were invalid, so the law could be implemented immediately. Diners who smoke will face a fine of between \$50 and \$250, while restaurant owners who let them face six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

## Filipino health department discovers 3 fake doctors

MANILA (AP) — A recent government call for volunteer doctors to serve in remote areas revealed three fakers and 21 who had some training but no license, the health secretary has said. Juan Flavio told a news conference Tuesday that the unqualified were among 328 applicants who filed for posting to the Philippines' 271 doctor-less towns. He said the towns had been without an assigned doctor for at least 10 years. The Health Department offered a tempting package of compensation for doctors willing to apply for these unfilled positions. The compensation is much more than the salaries and allowances given to doctors in government hospitals and in some private clinics. A doctor in the programme will receive between 16,000 to 24,000 pesos (\$392 to \$588) a month.

## Battery-less smoke alarm saves man

LONDON (AFP) — The smoke alarm in Bob Jones' bedroom didn't even have a battery in it, but when fire broke out Tuesday night it woke him up anyway — by falling on his head. "If it had landed anywhere else I wouldn't have heard it because I was asleep," he said. "I'd have been a goner." He said he had removed the battery from the buzzer alarm weeks ago because it had run down and the device was making an annoying hissing noise indicating the battery needed to be replaced. The alarm had only been taped to the bedroom ceiling of Lightfoot, and was dislodged by the heat and smoke from a small fire that was quickly controlled. "I meant to buy another battery and some screws to fasten it permanently," said Jones. "But I forgot."



## Princess Haya leads Jordan's team at Lattakia championship

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lattakia equestrian championship opened Wednesday afternoon with the participation of teams from Lebanon, Egypt, Qatar, Greece, Syria and Jordan.

Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein will be leading the Jordanian team throughout the three-day competition. The Kingdom's team also includes Hani Bisharat, Ra'ad Naser, Muna Sukhtan, Omar Bibi and Lama Mansour.

This is the second year the Jordanian equestrian team takes part in this championship, which is held as part of the Lattakia Love and Peace Festival which also includes cultural activities and a parachuting contest.



Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein leading the Jordanian team at the Lattakia championship.

## Top German stars return home for new season

BONN (R) — German soccer fans, accustomed in recent years to their stars leaving to earn big money abroad, will welcome some of their favourite players home when the new league season opens Friday.

Home crowds will thrill to the skills of national players such as Lothar Matthaus, Karlheinz Riedle, Matthias Sammer and Stefan Reuter and delight in old favourites — Bernd Schuster and Andreas Brehme.

The trend is in stark contrast to 1990 when the Germans won the World Cup.

Then most of the national team were earning their living in Italy and any new rising Bundesliga star was soon packing his bags to earn millions of lire in southern Europe, much to the disappointment of club directors and fans.

But the exodus has stopped, some of the Germans in Italy watched too many matches from the stands last season because their rich clubs had too many foreign players.

With the 1994 World Cup looming at the end of the season, many realised they needed regular games to make sure of their places in the German squad for the United States.

The return of national team captain Matthaus to Bayern Muenich from Internazionale Milan began the homeward trend at the start of last season.

By the middle of the season Borussia Dortmund had defender Reuter and midfielder Sammer back in their ranks after spells in Italy. The Ruhr Club also won the race to snap up striker Riedle from Lazio in the closer season.

The 33-year-old Schuster has returned after nearly 13 years in Spain to play out his days at Bayer Leverkusen and Brehme has home after five years in Italy and Spain to play for his former club Kaiserslautern.

German League soccer has undergone many changes while they have been away. Four different clubs have won the championship in the past four seasons. Clear evidence that the old days of the dominant Bayern Munich

were over.

"The last few seasons have been the years of opportunity," former national coach and Bayern vice-president Franz Beckenbauer said. "Any one of the top five clubs could have won the title. There are no really dominant teams."

This season again at least six clubs have strong enough squads to win the title, including champions Werder Bremen, Bayern, Eintracht Frankfurt, Dortmund, VfB Stuttgart and Leverkusen.

Bremen, who pipped Bayern to the crown on a dramatic final day last season, have avoided big purchases in the close season.

But their shrewd coach Otto Rehhagel is an expert in providing the correct blend of youth and experience. With talented Austrian playmaker Andreas Herzog and striker Bernd Hobsch in their ranks, Werder are sure to remain a major force.

Bayern, by contrast, are putting a lot of faith in their expensive new Colombian forward Adolfo Valencia after failing to sign Dutch star Ruud Gullit in the summer.

UEFA Cup finalists Dortmund must be regarded as strong candidates with their line-up of German internationals and Swiss striker Stephane Chapuisat.

The arrival of flamboyant coach Dragoslav Stankovic will boost Leverkusen's hopes, especially with experienced playmaker Schuster and new Brazilian midfielder Paulo Sergio in their ranks.

The stress of the more competitive Bundesliga seems to have had a negative impact on Germany's performances in Europe in recent seasons, however.

Despite the successes of beaten 1993 UEFA Cup finalists Dortmund and 1992 European Cup Winners' Cup champions Bremen, German clubs have failed to show the consistency of the past.

After Stuttgart's failure in the European Cup last season, Bremen will be under pressure to ensure a Bundesliga side reaches the prestigious round robin semi-final group stage.

## Van Almsick heads for 3rd gold

SHEFFIELD (R) — Franziska Van Almsick confidently lined up her third gold medal of the European Swimming Championships by leading qualifiers for the women's 200 metres freestyle final Wednesday.

The 15-year-old Berliner did not need to exert herself unduly, doing just enough to show she was in charge after collecting her first two gold medals in major senior championships in Tuesday's 100 metres freestyle and 4x200 freestyle relay.

Van Almsick, Olympic silver medalist in Barcelona, clocked 2:01.72 to lead qualifiers ahead of 17-year-old Slovak Martina Moravcova and 1991 European bronze medalist Luminia Dobrescu of Romania.

Moravcova, silver medalist behind the German in the 100 freestyle, and Dobrescu touched equal first in their heat in 2:02.17.

But there was no place in the final for defending champion Mette Jacobsen of Denmark, who finished ninth overall just 0.04 of a second slower than the last qualifier.

Elena Rudkovskaya of Belarus, Olympic 100 metres breaststroke champion, pulled out of the women's 200 metres breaststroke heats.

Rudkovskaya, who won both European breaststroke titles in



Hungarian Kristina Egerszegi's powerful butterfly crawl helps her to qualify at the women's 400 metres at the European Swimming Championships (AFP photo)

1991, earlier told a Belarusian journalist she was not as fit as she had been in Barcelona and was concentrating on the 100.

Belgium's Brigitte Becue installed herself as favourite in Rudkovskaya's absence, leading qualifiers by more than a second.

Tamas Darnyi, Hungary's multiple Olympic and world champion, led the way in the men's 400 metres individual medley and looked a solid bet to win the title for the fourth time.

Darnyi has won the 200 and 400 individual medleys in all the major championships he has entered since 1985, though he missed the last European Cham-

## Close fight expected in New Zealand Rally

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (R) — The big four rally teams meet for only the third time this year when the rally of New Zealand starts in Auckland Thursday morning.

Their clash in the eighth round of the World Championship comes at an important stage of the season, with Ford and Toyota running neck and neck in the series and the Subaru team saying it is ready for its first victory.

The Lancia team has not experienced its usual success so far this season, but lead driver Carlos Sainz feels at home in New Zealand — he has won this event for the last three years driving Toyotas, on his way to world drivers' titles in 1990 and 1992.

Drivers say the rally should be very close and they will have to drive flat-out the whole way. The smooth dirt roads — in particular good condition this year — will be easy on the cars, so the drivers will have to need to back off to conserve their machinery.

"It will be 101 per cent all the way," Toyota driver Didier Auriol (France) said.

The Ford team says its Escort Cosworth is easier on tyres than the Toyota Celica, which should be an advantage on long stages like the tight, twisting Motu, expected to take more than 40 minutes to complete.

The Subaru team led the Acropolis Rally in Greece two months ago before drivers Ari Vatanen (Finland) and Colin McRae (Scotland) crashed, and Vatanen predicted that his team would be battling with the Toyota drivers for victory in New Zealand.

This will be Subaru's second-to-last World Championship rally with its legacy before switching to the smaller Impreza. Still looking for its first World Championship win, the team is running three full works cars with the third in the hands of local driver Posu Bourne.

Ford's Miki Biasion (Italy) leads the drivers' series with 66 points, followed by Juha Kankkunen (Finland, Toyota) on 63, Francois Delcourt (France, Ford) on 55, Auriol on 47, Sainz and Markku Alen (Finland, Subaru) on 25 and McRae on 24. Of these, only Alen is absent in New Zealand.

Toyota is in front in the manufacturers' series with 97 points, ahead of Ford on 94, Lancia on 55, Mitsubishi on 47 and Subaru on 36.

The rally starts in Auckland at 10 a.m. (2200 GMT Wednesday) and finishes back there at 2 p.m. (0200 GMT) Sunday after 36 special stages covering 579 km (360 miles).

As well as counting for both the world drivers' and manufacturers' championships, it is also the second round of the Asia-Pacific Championship, the first round of the Tasman Cup contested in Australia and New Zealand, and the final round of the New Zealand Championship.

## Careca leaves Brazilian squad

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Brazil's soccer team, struggling on the field and booed by its fans, received another jolt Tuesday when World Cup veteran Careca left the squad.

The 32-year-old forward said he is having personal problems and "lacked the right spirit necessary at this time to represent Brazil in World Cup competition."

Careca, who this summer signed to play in Japan after six seasons with the Italian club Napoli, said he'd been considering leaving for weeks before coming to the "mature decision."

He left open the option of rejoining the Brazilian squad.

"I wasn't adding any spark to the team," Careca said from his hometown of Campinas.

Coach Carlos Alberto Parreira replaced him with Valdeir, a young forward from the French club Bordeaux.

Careca, whose given name is Antonio De Oliveira Filho, denied the Brazilian squad was panicking over the possibility of not qualifying for the 1994 World Cup.

"Qualifying for the World Cup will come easy for this team despite problems and roster changes," he said.

Careca had been heavily criticized for sluggish play in Brazil's three World Cup qualifying matches.

His departure comes a day after Zetti, a substitute goalkeeper, was suspended by soccer's ruling body for testing positive for cocaine after a World Cup qualifier with Bolivia July 25. Parreira replaced him with Gilmar.

"It's absurd," Zetti said of the temporary suspension by FIFA. "I have never used drugs or taken any other substance prohibited by FIFA."

Team doctor Lidio Toledo called the accusation "a joke."

Bolivia's Miguel Angel Rimba, who was also suspended, and Zetti said they drank a legal tea made from coca leaves and other herbs, commonly used to reduce dizziness and nausea in the 12,000-foot (4000-meter) altitude of La Paz.

Dr. Eduardo De Rose, a member of the medical commission of the International Olympic Committee, said it was unlikely the tea would give a positive reading, even though it is the raw material for cocaine.

"It had to be something much stronger," he said.

Brazil was a heavy favourite with Uruguay for the two World Cup berths in South America's Group B. The other three teams — Ecuador, Bolivia and Venezuela — were considered lightweights.

But, inexplicably, Brazil's play has been aghast. It tied Ecuador 0-0, lost 2-0 to Bolivia and even looked bad in a 5-1 victory over Venezuela.

## Graf wins despite ailment

CARLSBAD, California (AP) — Steffi Graf, complaining of dizziness, withdrew from her doubles match Tuesday night after beating Karine Quentrec 6-3, 6-3 in the Mazda Classic.

The top-ranked woman player attributed her dizziness to "blocked jaw," which she said arose more than a week ago and causes a feeling similar to a toothache. She said she has been taking a non-prescription pain reliever.

With a scheduled day off Wednesday, she expected to play her next singles match Thursday. "I didn't have a trace of this the last few days," Graf said. "But I felt a little before the match and a few times during the match."

The German star hadn't played in two weeks since suffering an inflamed shoulder in a Federation Cup loss, but has recovered from that and from a sore foot that nagged her while she was winning Wimbledon.

"I've been able to practice hard," Graf said. "I had to take some time off after Wimbledon, but for the last week neither the shoulder nor anything else hurt."

Graf started slowly before winning her last five games against Quentrec, ranked 86th in the world. Her doubles match was to follow.

"I was affected a little bit by the pain," Graf said. "I didn't concentrate as well and I was a little late on some shots."

Quentrec's serve wasn't overpowering, yet proved effective as she won five of her first six service games.

Earlier in second-round play, qualifier Elena Likhovtseva, ranked 244th in the world, beat No. 8 seed Nathalie Tauziat 1-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2.

"This is my biggest win ever," said Likhovtseva, 17, of Kazakhstan.

Two other seeds were ousted on the second day of the \$375,000 tournament. Germany's Marketa Kochta beat No. 13 Kimberly Po 6-3, 6-1 and Finland's Nanne Dahlman topped No. 14 Angelica Gavaldon 4-6, 7-6 (7-4).

In another second-round match, No. 5 Magdalena Maleeva beat Rosana De Los Rios, the top-ranked junior player, 6-1, 6-0.

In first-round play, No. 10 Gigi Fernandez beat Elena Brioukhovets 6-4, 6-4; No. 11 Ann Grossman downed Natalia Baudone 6-0, 6-4 and No. 12 Debbie Graham edged Maureen Drake 4-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

Maleeva controlled play with a strong array of placement shots against De Los Rios, who has had limited pro experience.

"My goal is to do whatever I have to do at this tournament," Maleeva said. "If I do my best, it will make me happy. If I do things the way that I have to do them, then I'll be right there."

A spokesman for the IAAF said the 32-year-old Dorovskikh had been informed of the test result.

He said he could not name the drug involved but athletics sources said it was believed to be the anabolic steroid stanozolol.

Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson was stripped of the 100 metres gold medal and the world record after testing positive for the same drug at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

If the drug is a steroid Dorovskikh will be banned for four years.

Gorodetsky said: "There was this in Budapest, we have this information," but earlier, before Budapest in the middle of June, Dorovskikh had five very important international competitions with serious testings — in Italy, Spain, France etc. There were no positive testings for a banned drugs over there."

Dorovskikh 15 one of the greatest women middle distance runners of all time.



Steffi Graf



Pete Sampras

Courier, Volkov and Petr Korda en route to winning the Canadian Open.

Stich, of Germany, ranked sixth in the world, had 11 aces in his convincing victory.

Pernfors, ranked 37th in the world, took the defeat calmly.

"He never really let me into the match," Pernfors said. "Last week, I played the best tennis of my career. Hopefully, it'll keep up my motivation. I had pretty good confidence coming into this tournament. When he really needed to win the points, he turned it up a notch."

Krickstein, who won the Volvo tournament in 1989, won nine straight games after losing the first set to Ferreira. The players then split the next six games, giving Krickstein the match.

Ivanisevic advances in Phillips Head Cup

In Kitzbuehel, Austria, No. 1 seed Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia defeated Marcos-Aurelio Gorriz of Spain 7-5, 6-4 Tuesday to advance to the \$400,000 Phillips Head Cup men's tennis tournament.

Ivanisevic, who drew a first-round bye, said he was satisfied with his first match in Kitzbuehel, especially with his volley, which he described as "surprisingly good." He added that the quick surface at Kitzbuehel suited him well.

"The Canadian player will meet me," Ivanisevic said. "I'm a fan of Andre Agassi. I met him last year in Kitzbuehel. He's a great player. I'm looking forward to playing him in the third round."

Ivanisevic ousted Juan Gisbert of Spain 7-6 (7-3), 6-3, 6-3. Schaller, the 15th seed, had a first-round bye.

Stich needed just 67 minutes to eliminate Pernfors, who beat Jim Courier in the first round.

Sampras needed only 65 minutes to beat Sznajder and set up a second-round match against Mauricio Hadad of Colombia, who earlier eliminated Derrick Rostagno 6-1, 3-6, 6-4.

In other first-round matches Tuesday, second-seeded Michael Stich overpowered Mikael Pernfors 6-2, 6-4 just two days after Pernfors won the Canadian Open; fourth-seeded Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands eliminated Gianluca Pozzi of Italy 7-6, 6-3; fifth-seeded Alexander Volkov of Russia beat Brian MacPhie 6-2, 6-3; Aaron Krickstein upset No. 6 Wayne Ferreira of South Africa 4-6, 6-0, 6-3; No. 8 Brad Gilbert rallied for a 3-6, 7-6, 6-2 victory over Luiz Mattar of Brazil; Jason Stoltenberg of Australia outlasted Byron Black of Zimbabwe 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, and Patrick McEnroe beat Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands 7-5, 6-3.

Sampras, known for his big serve, had eight aces against Sznajder while being aces five times himself.

"There are a lot of big servers here," Sampras said. "I didn't hit my first serve that well tonight, but my second serve did OK."

Sampras said he would have preferred to play three sets against Sznajder because he needs the work as he prepares for the U.S. Open, which starts Aug. 30.

Stich needed just 67 minutes to eliminate Pernfors, who beat Jim Courier in the first round.

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## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSH

1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AK10875 ♣A98 ♠62 ♠8  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 NT Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AQ7 ♣AQ ♠KJ654 ♠43  
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ10 ♠A98 ♣QJ9 ♠8752  
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠8653 ♠K643 ♠64 ♠Q95  
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠942 ♠A8 ♠7432 ♠J1096  
Partner opens the bidding with a demand bid of two diamonds. What do you respond?

Q.6—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AJ109 ♠AQJ10854 ♠96 ♠43  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

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Wad Sayyed Al Shaghal

play (Arabic)

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play (Arabic)

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## PHILADELPHIA

Tel.: 634144

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Wad Sayyed Al Shaghal

play (Arabic)

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## Five hurt in Baghdad bomb

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — A car bomb exploded outside a hospital in central Baghdad on Wednesday, injuring five people, one of them seriously, officials said.

An Information Ministry statement blamed "agents supervised by the Iranian regime" for the attack, using official jargon for members of the Shi'ite Muslim opposition, some of which are based in Tehran.

Wednesday's blast was the first in Baghdad since December 1991, when a car bomb blew up outside the Sheraton hotel wounded an employee.

The hooby-trapped Volkswagen taxi exploded outside the Ibn Al Bitar hospital in the Al Saliha neighbourhood and not far from a telephone exchange and the radio and television centre.

A 25-year-old man was wounded in the chest and stomach and underwent an emergency operation. Four other passengers by the taxi were slightly hurt by flying glass, said Rajah Abud Al Khabbi, a doctor of the Al Karamah hospital where the casualties, all men, were taken.

One of the injured, Fazi Khalaf, who was selling tyres on the pavement near the blast, told AFP: "I didn't see the car. I thought it was an American missile."

The blast damaged cars belonging to the hospital and shattered windows in nearby apartment blocks. It gouged a three-metre hole in the wall around the hospital.

State-television showed the remains of the taxi as well as the deception area of the hospital littered with glass as city workers quickly moved to clear the debris.

The attack "clearly proves the political bankruptcy and the criminal attitude of those who carried it out," the Information Ministry said.

"They are forgetting that 88,000 tonnes of American bombs (during the Gulf war) failed to weaken the Iraqi people's resolve to protect Iraq."

Iraq marks on Sunday the fifth anniversary of the end of its eight-year war with Iran with ceremonies planned across Baghdad.

## Lebanese army tightens security control in south

Combined agency dispatches

BEIRUT — Lebanese troops tightened security in South Lebanon Wednesday in what diplomats said was a blow to the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) after last week's Israeli blitz.

Diplomats said Beirut was using the Israeli assault on the south, which weakened popular support for Hizbollah, to revive the army's role.

The Lebanese government and United Nations are discussing how to send Lebanese troops to secure hattered 70 frontline villages facing Israel's self-declared border "security zone."

Israel received "understandings" Hizbollah would stop firing rockets into north Israel as part of the ceasefire which took effect on Saturday after 500,000 civilians fled the onslaught.

About 150 people, mainly civilians, were killed and more than 600 were wounded by the Israeli bombardments.

Military sources said troops were patrolling round the clock in many villages including those on the Iqlim Al Toufah mountain ridge, a Hizbollah bastion blasted by the Israeli guns.

Troops had confiscated dozens of sidearms and rifles from Hizbollah and other guerrillas after the government revived an old decree cancelling gun permits across the country.

"Any person with a weapon on him will have it confiscated no matter to which group he belongs," a military source said.

The army is on patrol to safeguard people's property so chaos does not prevail.

The diplomats said the government was trying to capitalise on most villagers' demands that troops take over their areas.

The United Nations and Lebanese army have assigned expert officers to map out a plan for deploying Lebanese troops next to U.N. peacekeepers in South Lebanon, military sources said.

Outstanding issues include how, when and where the Lebanese troops would deploy, and who would be in command in situations involving both forces.

"The deployment of the Lebanese army in the south is

aimed at curbing anarchy, not resistance against the Israeli occupation," Prime Minister Rafik Hariri said in an interview published Wednesday by the independent Beirut daily, Al Nahar.

Mr. Hariri has said guerrilla warfare to drive Israel out of the "security zone" was legitimate, but the government did not approve of firing Katyusha rockets across the border.

Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, who heads the Syrian-supported Shi'ite Amal militia in South Lebanon, declared in a television interview Tuesday night that he supported the Lebanese army deployment.

Mr. Berri, whose militiamen often clashed with Hizbollah's fighters and have claimed attacks on the Israeli troops, said, "I don't mind placing Lebanese troops assigned to service in the UNIFIL zone under U.N. command."

The government has not issued a statement on that issue.

At an Arab League meeting on the Lebanon crisis in Damascus last week, Mr. Hariri stressed the need for financial assistance to rebuild and equip the army to revive its role in the south.

Mr. Hariri also sought for Arab aid to rebuild an estimated 30,000 houses destroyed or damaged by the Israeli offensive.

"What happened in the south helped the government in a way, by paving the way for the army deployment. People blame Hizbollah, even if indirectly, for the damage of their homes," a Lebanese diplomat said.

"Now they are turning to the state to help them. They want state authority there more than ever," he said. "If we don't help the people it would create a big political problem."

Syria has the power to prevent Hizbollah militias firing rockets at northern Israel, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told the German magazine Stern.

"There is absolutely no doubt that the weapons which Hizbollah is firing at Israel come to South Lebanon from Iran via Syria. If the Syrians wanted to, they could stop the arms supplies," he told Stern.

## U.N. team finishes Iraq camera work

Baghdad not interested in one-time oil sale now, Ghali tells U.N.

Combined agency dispatches

BAGHDAD — U.N. weapons inspectors have finished installing surveillance cameras at two Iraqi missile test sites and are preparing to leave Baghdad at the end of a "successful" mission, team leader Bill Eckert said Wednesday.

Iraq initially refused to allow the cameras to be installed, provoking U.S. threats of military action before a compromise deal was worked out with the United Nations.

"We have completed all the programme of work that we had planned with our Iraqi counterparts," Mr. Eckert said, adding that he and the other U.S. colleagues would be leaving Iraq Thursday.

"The mission has been very successful... It was an excellent visit," he added.

Before leaving, the team was expected on Wednesday to monitor a missile firing at the Yawm Al Azim site south of Baghdad, where three surveillance cameras have been set up. Three other cameras were installed in Rafah, 60 kilometres south of Baghdad.

Under a July 19 agreement between the United Nations and Iraq, the surveillance cameras will not be activated until high-level technical talks between the two parties are held in late August or early September in New York.

The discussions are to focus on long-term control of Iraqi disarmament and Iraq's compliance with relevant U.N. resolutions.

The U.N. Special Commission for Disarmament has said it plans to increase the number of experts based in Baghdad. They will inspect the sites at least once a week between tests to determine whether any tests took place without Iraq previously notifying the United Nations.

By installing long-term controls on Iraq, the United Nations is seeking to assure that Baghdad, which no longer has weapons of mass destruction, will not be able to build new ones.

At the U.N., Secretary-General Boutros Ghali quoted as saying Iraq was no longer interested in limited sales of \$1.6 billion in oil, but wants to sell oil freely once all sanctions are lifted.

Diplomats, speaking on condi-

tion of anonymity, said Dr. Ghali briefed the ambassadors of the United States, Britain, France and Russia about the oil sales Tuesday.

He told them that Iraq appears to believe that all sanctions could be lifted soon, the diplomats said. That would eliminate the need for negotiations on an exemption to the trade embargo to allow a limited oil sale so Iraq could purchase humanitarian supplies.

The Western diplomats said Dr. Ghali and the ambassadors agreed that sanctions would not be lifted and urged Iraq to resume talks on a limited oil sale.

Iraqi diplomats were not immediately available for comment. Talks on oil sales were suspended July 14 when the Iraqi delegation said it needed to return to Baghdad for instructions. They have not been rescheduled.

U.N. officials said Tuesday that they were ready to resume the talks at any time.

At Tuesday's meeting with the ambassadors, Dr. Ghali relayed the contents of a letter received last week from Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Saeed Al Sahaf. The letter has not been released.

The economic embargo imposed after Iraq's Aug. 1990 invasion of Kuwait has caused widespread hardships for the Iraqi people. The United States and its allies insist that Iraq comply with ceasefire terms ending the Gulf war — including elimination of mass destruction weapons and recognising the border with Kuwait — in order to get the sanctions lifted.

After the oil talks were suspended, Iraq made a major concession by apparently agreeing to long-term weapons monitoring. Iraq also agreed to allow the installation of the cameras at test sites.

Talks on monitoring and other outstanding issues between Iraq and the United Nations are to begin in late August.

Diplomats said Iraq apparently believes that these concessions on monitoring will make it easier to get the sanctions removed.

Iraqi Ambassador to Austria Rabbia Al Kiri told the Standard newspaper Wednesday that Iraq expects the United Nations trade embargo against it to be relaxed because it has met most of the conditions laid down by the U.N.

## Demjanjuk hopes to be back in Ohio soon

TEL AVIV (AP) — John Demjanjuk was in good spirits Wednesday after hearing on Israel Radio's morning news that a U.S. appeals court ruled he should be released by Israel and returned to the United States, his son said.

"He was very happy," Demjanjuk's son, John Jr., told the Associated Press after visiting his father in his cell. "He is that much closer to going home."

Demjanjuk will remain jailed in Israel at least until Aug. 11, the day Israeli prosecutors will tell the supreme court whether they want to try him on new Nazi war crimes charges, Israeli officials said.

Israeli Nazi hunter Efraim Zuroff said he planned to submit new documents to the high court Thursday to back allegations that the retired Ohio auto worker was a war criminal.

"We will leave no stone unturned in our efforts to see that this criminal will be forced to pay for his crimes," he said.

Last week, the supreme court overturned Demjanjuk's 1968 conviction and death sentence, saying there was reasonable doubt he was a guard at the Treblinka camp.

The court said there was convincing proof Demjanjuk was a guard at another camp, Sobibor, but stopped short of conviction because the charge was not contained in the original indictment and Demjanjuk did not have a chance to defend himself.

The court recommended against a new trial on the Sobibor charges in view of the lengthy legal proceedings against Demjanjuk in Israel. Press reports here also said the court lacked evidence of what he did at Sobibor beyond serving as a guard.

Demjanjuk, stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 1981 for lying about his alleged Nazi past, was set to be deported for his native Ukraine last Sunday.

But hours before his scheduled departure, another supreme court panel ruled that Demjanjuk must remain in Israel for at least 10 more days to give Israeli prosecutors time to consider trying him on the Sobibor allegations.

## Tapes show sheikh knew of 'plots'

NEW YORK (Agencies) —

Government transcripts show that Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman talked with his followers about the merits of targeting various buildings in an apparent guerrilla bombing plot, the New York Times reported Wednesday.

Eleven of the sheikh's followers are charged with conspiring to bomb the United Nations building, the federal building which houses the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Lincoln and Holland tunnels connecting New York with New Jersey under the Hudson River.

The transcript records a May 23 meeting in which the blind sheikh responds to questions from a government informer, Emad Salem. The Times said several other men were present, including Siddiq Ibrahim Siddiq Ali — a prime suspect in the plot.

Asked by Mr. Salem if the

United Nations was the "house of the devil" and could be a target for "action," the sheikh replied: "It is not forbidden (by Islamic law). But it will put the Muslims in bad light."

"Think of something else because the U.N. is considered to be the centre for peace. People will say that Muslims are against peace," the sheikh said.

Mr. Salem then asked the sheikh for his opinion about making a target of the FBI centre in central Manhattan. "By God, it needs to be studied," the cleric said.

The tapes, mostly in Arabic, have been translated by the government, the Times said.

The word "bombing" is never used in the conversations. But lawyers involved in the case say it is clear that Mr. Salem was referring to the plot to bomb four New York City targets that was foiled by federal agents in June, the

report said.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman is in prison awaiting a decision on his appeal against expulsion from the United States on the grounds that he entered illegally while on a banned list. Egypt has asked for his extradition for trial in connection with riots that occurred while he lived there.

The tapes show informant Salem took an active role in planning the bombing, a fact defence lawyers are likely to seize on to prove their clients were entrapped.

Transcripts of the tapes were broadcast by ABC news on Monday and their accuracy was confirmed by defence lawyers on Tuesday.

The recordings could torpedo the government's case, a lawyer for two defendants said. "We were ecstatic, absolutely ecstatic," said attorney Ron Kuby.

Mr. Kuby and other defence

lawyers say the tapes could help them prove the government tricked their clients into unwittingly becoming part of the alleged conspiracy.

The tapes take "a case that from the government's standpoint looked foolproof and torpedoed it," said Mr. Kuby, who along with William Kaustner represents defendants Ibrahim Al Gabrowny, 42, of Brooklyn and Siddiq Ibrahim Siddiq Ali, 32, of Jersey City, New Jersey. Both are charged with conspiracy in the bomb plot.

Mr. Gabrowny also was charged with obstruction of justice and false passports stemming from the investigation of the Feb. 26 World Trade Centre explosion that killed six people.

"I'm dying to hear those tapes," said Andrew Patel, another lawyer. "It was kind of amazing that the tapes were made."

## Poll shows dipping Palestinian support for peace process

AMMAN (J.T.) — A survey among Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip released Wednesday indicated a marked drop in support for the peace talks with Israel.

Some 43 per cent of those questioned backed the negotiations, down from 60 per cent in February. Another 50 per cent thought the Palestinians should withdraw from the negotiations, up from 35 per cent who held such a view in February.

The poll was conducted July 27-29 among 1,476 Palestinians, with a margin of error of three per cent. It was commissioned by Western television networks and carried out by the Jerusalem Media and Communications Centre, a private Palestinian polling group.

Ghassan Khatib, a member of the Palestinian negotiating team and head of the centre, said the main conclusion of the poll were: — The majority of Palestinians are not convinced of continuing negotiations under the Madrid formula and demand that negotiations should stop.

— The vast majority support democratic reform within the structure of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). — While the number is not over half in support of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, there is a marked increase in support of the concept when compared with earlier studies which tapped the support.

"It cannot be taken as an abstract number," Dr. Khatib said. — There is a decrease in the support of nationalist forces. This decrease is not necessarily turning over to the Islamist forces, except for a small percentage.

In fact a significant percentage is saying it wants another option different from the nationalists and Islamists.

"This is where the people are moving," Dr. Khatib said.

Following are the details of the poll's findings made available to the Jordan Times:

**METHODOLOGY**  
A random sample of 1,476 Palestinians, over the age of 18, was interviewed throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip on July 27/28/29, 1993. The interviews were conducted by Jerusalem Media and Communications Centre (JMCC) in cooperation with CNN and RTL Dutch TV on Aug. 2, 1993, on a face-to-face basis with people who visited general service offices in the main towns to fill out application forms for their identity cards, travel documents, birth registrations, etc.

In the West Bank, 885 questionnaires were received from the following major areas: Jericho, Tulkarem, Qalqilia, Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron, East Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Jericho. In the Gaza Strip, 591 questionnaires were received from Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.

The margin error is plus or minus 3 per cent with a confidence level of 95 per cent.

**SAMPLE DISTRIBUTION**

60.0 per cent of the respondents were from the West Bank  
40.0 per cent from the Gaza Strip  
24.7 per cent said they live in villages  
30.6 per cent in refugee camps  
44.6 per cent in towns/cities  
76.6 per cent were male  
23.4 per cent were female

66.4 per cent were married/ 30.6 per cent single/ 2.1 per cent widowed/ 0.8 per cent divorced

The average age of the respondents was 32 years

**OCCUPATION OF RESPONDENTS**

Students 10.4 per cent  
Waged labourers 12.4 per cent  
Housewives 6.9 per cent  
Employees 21.1 per cent  
Merchants 7.8 per cent

Farmers 2.1 per cent  
Craftsmen 17.0 per cent  
Doctors/Lawyers/Pharmacists/Engineers 13.8 per cent  
Unemployed 7.2 per cent  
Retired 1.3 per cent

### OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY:

1 Do you support the idea of a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation as the final settlement?

Yes 40.9 per cent  
No 51.7 per cent  
No opinion 7.4 per cent

2 Do you support the continuation of the current peace negotiations based on the Madrid formula?

Yes 37.5 per cent  
No 55.9 per cent  
No opinion 6.5 per cent

3 Do you support ending the negotiations and a Palestinian withdrawal from the talks?

Yes 50.1 per cent  
No 43.7 per cent  
No opinion 6.1 per cent

4 Do you think there is a need for democratic reform in the PLO?

Yes 87.7 per cent  
No 6.5 per cent  
No opinion 5.6 per cent

5 What do you think should be the final settlement for Jerusalem?

a. An open undivided city and a capital for two states 12.4 per cent  
b. A divided city and a capital for two states 32.9 per cent  
c. An international open city under international administration 20.4 per cent  
d. Other. Please specify 34.2 per cent

6 Who do you trust more to lead you out of the current situation?

a. National movements 51.9 per cent  
b. Islamic movements 24.1 per cent  
c. Others 23.9 per cent

7 What do you think of general strikes?

a. Calls for general strikes should stop 24.5 per cent  
b. General strike days should be reduced 35.8 per cent  
c. Strike days should increase 05.5 per cent  
d. Number of strike days is suitable 33.9 per cent

### GAZA STRIP:

1 Do you support the idea of a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation as the final settlement?

Yes 37.5 per cent  
No 58.8 per cent  
No opinion 03.7 per cent

2 Do you support the continuation of the current peace negotiations based on the Madrid formula?

Yes 38.4 per cent  
No 58.3 per cent  
No opinion 03.3 per cent

3 Do you support ending the negotiations and a Palestinian withdrawal from the talks?

Yes 49.2 per cent  
No 46.4 per cent  
No opinion 04.4 per cent

4 Do you think there is a need for democratic reform in the PLO?

Yes 85.3 per cent  
No 08.2 per cent  
No opinion 05.4 per cent

5 What do you think should be the final settlement for Jerusalem?

a. An open undivided city and a capital for two states 10.2 per cent  
b. A divided city and a capital for two states 29.5 per cent  
c. An international open city under international administration 23.4 per cent  
d. Other. Please specify 36.9 per cent

6 Who do you trust more to lead you out of the current situation?

a. National movements 54.6 per cent  
b. Islamic movements 28.1 per cent  
c. Others 17.3 per cent

7 What do you think of general strikes?

a. Calls for general strikes should stop 17.4 per cent  
b. General strike days should be reduced 40.2 per cent  
c. Strike days should increase 06.8 per cent  
d. Number of strike days is suitable 36.4 per cent

### WEST BANK (INCLUDING ARAB JERUSALEM):

1 Do you support the idea of a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation as the final settlement?

Yes 43.1 per cent  
No 47.1 per cent  
No opinion 09.7 per cent

2 Do you support the continuation of the current peace negotiations based on the Madrid formula?

Yes 37.0 per cent  
No 54.4 per cent  
No opinion 07.2 per cent

3 Do you support ending the negotiations and a Palestinian withdrawal from the talks?

Yes 50.7 per cent  
No 42.0 per cent  
No opinion 07.2 per cent

4 Do you think there is a need for democratic reform in the PLO?

Yes 88.7 per cent  
No 05.4 per cent  
No opinion 05.8 per cent

5 What do you think should be the final settlement for Jerusalem?

a. An open undivided city and a capital for two states 13.9 per cent  
b. A divided city and a capital for two states 35.2 per cent  
c. An international open city under international administration 18.4 per cent  
d. Other. Please specify 32.5 per cent

6 Who do you trust more to lead you out of the current situation?

a. National movements 50.1 per cent  
b. Islamic movements 21.5 per cent  
c. Others 28.1 per cent

7 What do you think of general strikes?

a. Calls for general strikes should stop 29.2 per cent  
b. General strike days should be reduced 35.6 per cent  
c. Strike days should increase 05.2 per cent  
d. Number of strike days is suitable 29.8 per cent

Cross tabulation between question 1 (confederation) and question 6 (national v. Islamic forces):

National forces: 48 per cent Yes for confederation  
45 per cent No for confederation  
7 per cent had no opinion

Islamic forces: 12.7 per cent Yes for confederation  
62.1 per cent No for confederation  
9.7 per cent had no opinion

Others: 38.5 per cent Yes for confederation  
55.7 per cent No for confederation  
5.8 per cent had no opinion

Attitude of those who support the national movement towards the peace process:

56.7 per cent Want the negotiations to continue  
37.7 per cent Want the negotiations to stop  
5.4 per cent did not express any opinion

90 per cent of those who said the national movement could solve the problem want to see reform within the PLO.

Cross Tabulation between place of residence and confederation.

Village: 43.7 per cent Said yes for confederation  
48.0 per cent Said no for confederation  
08.3 per cent Expressed no opinion

Refugee camps: 35.0 per cent said yes for confederation  
37.0 per cent said no for confederation  
08.0 per cent Expressed no opinion

Cities: 43.3 per cent Said yes for confederation  
50.0 per cent Said no for confederation  
06.7 per cent Expressed no opinion

